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# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
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As of August 26, 2009

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Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

## INSIDE



### Immigration Fight

U.S. immigrants are fighting to bring their adult children to the United States.

**NATION...Page 15**

### Kennedy Dies

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy died late Tuesday after battling a brain tumor. He was 77.

**NATION...Page 15**

New president of teachers' association quits PSS post. **PAGE 2**  
Swine flu vaccine available soon in the CNMI. **PAGE 6**

WITH FOUR MORE PAY PERIODS TO GO:

## PSS short by \$437K for personnel

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

**W**ith four more pay periods to go before the end of the current fiscal year, the Public School System is reporting that it is nearly half a million dollar short for its personnel costs.

Based on records presented to the Board of Education yesterday, PSS deputy finance director Lori Grizzard said the

system has already incurred a \$434,232 deficit for personnel costs and \$2,929 for Education

**See PSS on Page 4**

### 3 MONTHS BEFORE FEDERALIZATION

## US Senate staffers visit NMI

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

ahead of the Nov. 28 federalization of local immigration.

Stayman and Edwards' visit

U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources staffers Allen Stayman and Isaac Edwards are on Saipan, meeting with key local and federal officials, as well as members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, three months



Stayman

comes a few weeks after U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chair Rep. Nick Rahall II (D-WV) and other lawmakers visited Saipan to look into problems related to the implementation

**See STAFFERS on Page 4**

## Just 43 of 142 foreign student applicants are issued permits

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

Only 43 or 30 percent of 142 foreign student applicants have so far received a permit from the Department of Commerce since it took over from the Division of Immigration the processing, approval, issuance and renewal of

foreign student permits in May.

But Deputy Commerce secretary Sixto Igisomar yesterday said they expect to issue decisions on the pending applications for foreign student permits by next week.

Between May and Aug. 25, Commerce received 142 applications

**See STUDENT on Page 4**

## Book unveils arcane knowledge of the NMI's traditional healers



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Sixty-four-year-old Rosa Warakai, left, and Dr. Elizabeth Rechebei show a sample of the 730-page book, *Directory of Traditional Healers and Medicinal Plants in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*, during its launching yesterday at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe organized by the Inetnon Amot Natibu (Native Medicine Association). Warakai is one of at least 44 traditional healers from Rota, Tinian and Saipan listed on the book, which also contains photos of more than 100 medicinal plants in the CNMI. The book costs \$35.

By **NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.**  
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REPORTER

As a young girl, Rosa S. Roppul-Warakai learned from her father, a famous traditional healer on the island, how to mix simple medicines out of herbal plants.

Another healer, Emilio A. Ayuyu, spent time as a young boy with the *man'amko*, who depended on him for massages.

Ayuyu's childhood neighbor, Anicia Q. Tomokane, recalled that while she and the other kids in the block were just starting to learn how to ride a bicycle, Ayuyu also began learning the basics of traditional healing.

"The *man'amko* would ask him to get a root or a bark of a tree. So his interest started while riding our bikes," said Tomokane.

Ayuyu later became the president of the In-

**See BOOK on Page 4**



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# Local

## New president of teachers' association quits PSS post

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Association of Commonwealth Teachers has identified a new president but the supposed new leader has already quit his position with the Public School System.

*Saipan Tribune* learned this yesterday after Angela Wheat told the Board of Education that former Kagman Elementary School teacher Sam Joyner was adjudged the winner in the group's election held in April.

However, the association has had no communication with Joyner since then and they believe

he has already moved off-island.

Wheat, who chaired the committee that conducted the ACT election, has been named acting president until a new one comes in. She succeeds Betty Miller to the position. Miller is now the San Vicente Elementary School administrator.

Wheat said that ACT members will decide in their next meeting whether they will hold another election for president.

"We want to give members that right to decide whether they want to conduct another election or not," Wheat said.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that nine public schools participated

in the ACT election, where over a hundred teachers from both primary and secondary schools cast their votes.

Although Joyner was the sole candidate who filed his candidacy, other names surfaced during the election after ACT allowed the voters to nominate other candidates on their ballots.

On her first day as interim ACT president, Wheat asked the board on the status on the associations' request to consider some issues related to the highly qualified teachers' requirement.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that ACT recently made presentations and an HQT study to PSS

management.

Yesterday, the board's Fiscal and Personnel Affairs Committee was tasked to review the study and submit recommendations to the board.

Among the association's recommendations is to lower the passing score for the Praxis 2 exam, provide additional time for non-English native teachers, and consider alternative measure for non-highly qualified "veteran" teachers.

ACT said the current CNMI plan for HQT is incomplete and lacks the critical component of input from those most impacted by the plan—the teachers.

## PENDING OUTCOME OF 'DISCUSSION' BETWEEN ADMIN, FUND:

## Court may or may not issue a 'final ruling' in November

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

NMI Retirement Fund administrator Mark A. Aguon clarified yesterday that the two meetings its negotiating team participated in on Monday and Tuesday were not for mediation or settlement.

He described the two meetings as plain discussions and presentation of ideas and options relating to the \$231 million court judgment.

"Those meetings were not settlement or mediation meetings....it's only a plain discussion to satisfy the judgment of the court," Aguon told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the Fund has already "won" its case against the central government over the unpaid employer's contributions.

It was learned that both teams of the administration and the Fund met Monday, succeeded by another one on Tuesday at the request of the Legislature.

Aguon said the Tuesday meeting took up the same issues and updates tackled in Monday's meeting.

He said the court judgment in June gives both parties the opportunity to work and agree on their options.

However, Aguon said, pending the outcome of the meetings, "the court may, or may not issue an order in November."

He disclosed that Judge Kenneth Govendo is scheduled to decide on Nov. 2 whether to issue or not an order relating to

the judgment.

As of yesterday, the negotiating teams have not scheduled their next meeting but Aguon said the Fund's team wants to continue the discussion after the board meeting on Sept. 17.

He also disclosed that the Legislature would soon appoint its representatives to the next discussions.

Among the issues that they tried to "reconcile" with the administration is the recommended 16 percent employer contribution rate, which is higher than the existing 11 percent.

The Fund's actuarial consultant earlier said the CNMI government should be paying 37.39 percent. It said the 11 percent, plus the unplanned withdrawals in the Fund's investments, makes the Fund financially unsound.

Aguon emphasized the important role the Legislature will play in the "negotiations," as any money to be paid to the Fund will go through legislative appropriation.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that in Tuesday's meeting, the administration team told the Fund that increasing the employer contribution rate would mean an additional expense of about half a million dollar for the already cash-strapped government.

The court judgment had also mandated the government to remit a portion of its collections from the hotel occupancy and alcohol container taxes to the Fund, as required by law.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (a) and (b), the Commonwealth Election Commission, hereby give notice that the Commonwealth Election Commission will meet at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 31, 2009, at the Mayor's Conference room, Teneto, Rota. Additional information concerning this meeting is available at the Office of the Election Commission, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

#### AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters
  - a. Roll call
  - b. Adoption of agenda
- II. Executive Director's Report
- III. Old Business
  - a. Final Ballot Layout
- IV. New Business
  - a. Polling Places
  - b. Counting Site
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

/s/ FRANCES M. SABLON  
Chairwoman

(The Commission, pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, may vote to meet in executive session to consult legal counsel and discuss personnel matters.)



# 'Congress should aid ex-garment workers'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The chairman of the Garment Workers Trust Fund said the U.S. Congress should help former garment workers who have been affected by the shutdown of the garment industry in the CNMI.

"Why not ask the federal government to appropriate some money for the workers since they are so interested in our garment industry and they want to do the right thing by the workers that have left?" said trust fund chair Timothy H. Bellas.

The former Superior Court judge said part of the problem is the change in the U.S. law, which caused the closure of the CNMI garment industry.

"So if these [alien workers] find themselves without an employer, why can't the U.S. Congress do a one-time special appropriation for them?" Bellas said.

The trust fund chairman suggested that the workers or the government go to U.S. Rep. Gregorio Sablan (D-MP) and ask him to work for the one-time special appropriation.

The Department of Labor provided Bellas' office in May 2009 a list of individual claims on behalf of 213 former garment workers against their former employers totaling some \$700,000.

Labor Deputy Secretary Cinta Kaipat earlier said the claims were provided by those who registered with Labor at

the Garapan Central Park last summer and those who registered with the federal Ombudsman's Office in 2007. Kaipat's list includes workers who were employed by garment industry subcontractors.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial had cited Labor's list in his recent letter to Bellas.

"Some of these workers would like to return home, but do not have enough savings for a ticket and there is no employer or bond to tap for the ticket," Fitial told Bellas.

The governor asked the trust fund to provide compensation to former garment workers who have prevailed in their labor cases but who have not been paid because both the employer and the bonding company have gone out of business.

In his response, Bellas said the trust fund continues to entertain and approve requests of former garment workers to repatriate them to their home countries.

However, he said, in an effort to fulfill their role as trustees, they have asked Labor to verify that there are no funds available either from the employer, the bonding company or the CNMI Account that is supposed to be earmarked for repatriation purposes.

The trust fund has \$600,000 in leftover funds intended to assist former garment workers who are still on Saipan and are facing hardships due to their former employment.

## Bail lowered for 2 Corrections officers

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Superior Court yesterday agreed to reduce the cash bail previously imposed on two Corrections officers facing charges of misconduct for allegedly beating an inmate at the prison in Susupe.

Associate Judge David Wiseman ordered that the \$5,000 cash bail for the temporary release of Corrections Sergeant Arnold Kaipat Seman and Corrections 11 Manuel Quitano should instead be \$500 in cash and \$4,500 in unsecured bond.

Wiseman ordered the release of the remaining \$4,500 cash to the persons who posted bail for Seman and Quitano.

The judge modified the bail for the two Corrections officers after special assistant attorney general Joe Przyuski and defense lawyers Robert Torres and Brien Nicholas agreed to reduce the bail.

Seman and Quitano immediately posted bail of \$5,000 each after their recent arrest.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Seman and Quitano with assault and battery, and misconduct in public office. In addition, the OAG charged Quitano with obstructing justice.



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According to an investigation conducted by Juan Santos of the White Collar Crimes/Public Corruption Task Force, Seman and Quitano, both assigned to the Correction Emergency Response Team, assaulted inmate Robert Jake Palacios inside the Isolation Unit at DOC on June 17, 2009.

On June 26, 2009 Palacios' mother wrote a letter to the editor about the beatings. The letter was published in newspapers.

Then acting DOC commissioner Dolores San Nicolas immediately talked with Palacios to confirm whether he was indeed assaulted.

San Nicolas then instructed Capt. Georgia Cabrera to call the Office of the Attorney General.

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# Kagman store says sorry for selling tobacco to minor

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

CYC Kagman Market has apologized for selling cigarettes to a minor in May, resulting in the denial of the retail store's application to renew its license to sell tobacco products.

Augustin R. Ayuyu, general manager of CYC Kagman Market, said yesterday that retail stores should always check for an identification card when selling tobacco products to avoid violating the law.

Selling tobacco products to minors or those under the age of 18 is prohibited by CNMI law.

"I apologize to the people for what happened, when we sold cigarettes to a minor. We ask for your consideration. We will ensure that proper identification is provided prior to the sale of tobacco products," Ayuyu told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

In December 2008, CYC Corp., do-

ing business as CYC Kagman Market, filed with the Department of Commerce an application to renew its license to sell tobacco products that was set to expire in January 2009.

That application had been pending until May 26 when it sold one pack of Doral cigarettes to a minor as reported by a parent to Commerce's Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Control Division.

Two days later, Commerce denied CYC Kagman Market's application for license renewal. The store is near Kagman High School.

Deputy Commerce secretary Sixto Igisomar, in a separate interview yesterday, said a hearing was held and the retail store was given options for its license to sell tobacco products be renewed or reissued.

One of the options is to publicly apologize for selling cigarettes to a minor.

Ayuyu said the store is sincerely apologizing for its mistake. He said sales have gone down by some 40 per-

cent since they were prohibited from selling tobacco products.

"We have learned a lesson from this mistake. We also remind other stores to always check for ID when selling tobacco. And parents and other adults should not ask their children to buy cigarettes for them. It's against the law," Ayuyu said.

## BOOK

From Page 1

etnon Amot Natibu/Ammwelil Safeyal Faluwasch, which recently embarked on a project to create a directory of the islands' traditional healers and the tools they use in their trade.

That project came to fruition yesterday, with the launching of the book, *Directory of Traditional Healers and Medicinal Plants in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*.

The book has been translated into three languages: Carolinian, Chamorro and English.

Roppul-Warakai, Ayuyu and other island healers shared about their experiences during the unveiling of the 370-page book yesterday at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

One of the healers, Donald B. Mendiola, was recognized for his deep knowledge of over 30 traditional medicines in the CNMI.

Present in yesterday's launching were Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's chief of staff, Esther Fleming; IAN/ASF cur-

Igisomar said Commerce's ABTC Division will consider CYC Kagman Market's license application after a public apology.

"Commerce does not condone selling of cigarettes and other tobacco products to minors. The issue with CYC Kagman Market should serve as warning to other businesses," he added.

The Office of the Attorney General also earlier sought information from the public about the sale of tobacco

products to minors, so that investigation can be initiated.

"Tobacco products" means any tobacco preparation, including but not limited to, chewing tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, any cigarette products, or snuff, said the OAG.

If a member of the public wishes to provide information or file a complaint, he or she may do so by calling the OAG's Investigative Unit at 664-2312 or 664-2341.

agencies.

The book was funded in part by a \$150,000 grant from the Administration for Native Americans. The project proposal was written by Dr. Liz Rechebe.

Work started in 2007 and was completed in January 2009.

The printing was also funded in part by the Marianas Public Land Trust and Rep. Ed Salas.

In its introduction, the book traced the history of the islands, especially World War II, that had an impact on the knowledge indigenous islanders possessed and practiced.

The book said that much of these knowledge and customs had been lost and are not practiced today.

However, some of the healing practices that the ancient people of the islands knew are still known—"thanks to the almost secret nature of this knowledge and practice to the outside world of their foreign administrators."

The book's main objective is to reveal this knowledge and practices to the public.

The book's first publication has 1,000 copies and costs \$35 each.

## STUDENT

From Page 1

cations for foreign student permits.

Of this number, 43 have been approved, 98 are pending and one is for an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen status application.

"They are a combination of applications for renewal and new permits, and many of them have visitors' entry permits," Igisomar told *Saipan Tribune*.

Commerce, however, has yet to issue a list identifying where the 43 approved foreign student permits are enrolled.

"The schools are from elementary to college. We will have that information later," he added.

Commerce regulations on foreign students strictly prohibit the transfer of alien enrollees to any public schools in

the CNMI and require private schools to be certified by the department to legitimize their business on island.

As of the third week of July, 12 schools have been issued certificates, formally allowing the institutions to enroll and accept foreign students to their educational programs and curriculum.

Of the 12 certifications, most were granted one-year approval by the department.

Besides permitting foreign students, Commerce has also been the permitting agency for foreign investors and retirees. But due to federalization, the amended regulations with respect to foreign investors and retirees may no longer apply on Nov. 28.

However, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has yet to issue regulations on investor and foreign student visas and CNMI-only transitional workers.

## PSS

From Page 1

Board costs as of Aug. 21.

There are nearly a thousand employees on the PSS payroll. Every pay period costs PSS \$1.1 million.

Grizzard also disclosed that from October 2008 to July 2009, PSS spent \$23.8 million for personnel.

Of that amount, \$23.7 million was spent on salaries of PSS personnel while \$101,000 paid for the Education Board's personnel.

During the board's deliberation yesterday, board member Marylou S. Ada expressed concern over the projected deficit. "How can we cover the deficit?" she asked.

Grizzard said PSS is counting on the stimulus money to cover the anticipated shortfall. PSS stands to receive over \$30 million in American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds from the federal government.

However, board members said that in the absence of stimulus funds, PSS should look into ways to resolve the problem.

Grizzard said they will look into other PSS funds that could be used to cover the shortfall.

Besides personnel costs, PSS officials also expressed concern over the utility expenses of schools.

Records show that since October 2008 to June 2009, PSS was billed \$2.5 million for its utility consump-

tion. Of that amount, PSS still has an outstanding balance of \$526,655, Grizzard said.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that PSS was billed an average of \$300,000 every month for its utility consumption. In July alone, PSS was billed \$311,000.

From July to September, Grizzard said PSS will need up to \$900,000 for utilities expenses.

Since last year, schools have been implementing energy conservation measures to save on utilities.

Although PSS is paying a higher amount for utilities, Grizzard said the schools' conservation efforts have resulted in some \$50,000 savings for PSS every month.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan told the board yesterday the high utility consumption in public schools is mainly due to the "unstable CUC rates."

Also, many schools were used for various events and programs during summer when schools are expected to close and shut down utilities.

It was only when

PSS only began paying for its utility consumption out of its own budget in Fiscal Year 2007. Before that, the central government paid for its utility bills.

In FY 2009, PSS was allocated just \$35 million for personnel, operation, and all others.

Last school year, the CNMI's 20 public schools accommodated nearly 11,000 students on three islands.

## STAFFERS

From Page 1

of federalization.

In 2007, the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which has jurisdiction over U.S. insular areas, asked DOI to draft the bill that became the basis for the CNMI federalization law, Public Law 110-229.

Stayman, a former director of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, and Edwards met yesterday morning with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan.

Sablan had repeatedly said that he's the last person to support any delay in federalization but the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has to implement the regulations "right" or it will do a "dirty" job that will harm the CNMI's economy.

Press secretary Charles Reyes said Fitial welcomes all federal policy makers and their staff to the CNMI and appreciates the opportunity to provide important feedback regarding the Commonwealth's current situation, real needs, and the impact that federal policies have on the islands.

"The essential message the governor has always conveyed to federal policy makers and their staff is this: The CNMI is facing unprecedented economic challenges and we need the federal government's financial and regulatory support to help our islands survive and recover from this major financial downturn," Reyes said.

Fitial wants federalization to be delayed further until the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is ready to implement the federalization regulations.

He also wants China and Russia to be included in the joint Guam-CNMI visa waiver program to avoid a loss of more than \$100 million to the CNMI

economy. He had said these are lucrative tourism markets and if the CNMI loses access to these markets, it would damage the government and many businesses, employees, and families.

### Meeting with business leaders

Jim Arenovski, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said the business group reiterated their request for visiting federal officials and lawmakers to include China and Russia in the visa waiver program, citing its importance to the CNMI economy.

Chamber officers met with Stayman and Edwards at the Hard Rock Café in Garapan yesterday noon.

Besides the visa waiver program, the Chamber also asked the congressional staffers to extend the federalization law for a year or until DHS is ready to implement the regulations and until the CNMI's labor needs are properly addressed.

"We asked for their help on the visa waiver program, the labor situation, the H visa program," he said, adding that they were able to raise issues with Stayman and Edwards that they would not otherwise be aware of.

With only a few months left before the supposed implementation of PL 110-229, DHS has yet to issue investor visa and CNMI-only transitional worker program regulations.

"We're concerned that DHS is not ready to implement it and we asked Stayman to help extend the legislation for one year. If DHS is not ready to put in people on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, then how would tourists and investors come in?" he asked, adding that he considers the meeting with the U.S. Senate staffers "good."

He also said the Chamber has been writing to the U.S. Department of Labor since last year to clarify issues that will affect the CNMI labor program but to this day, he said, the federal agency has

yet to respond to any of their letters.

Jeff Schorr, OIA field representative, confirmed that Stayman and Edwards also met with federal officials yesterday. They will also be meeting with other federal officials today.

Besides Stayman and Edwards, also on island are two U.S. Department of the Interior legislative liaison.

### Today's schedule

Senate President Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) had said that lawmakers will meet with Stayman and Edwards this morning.

A news briefing with Stayman and Edwards is also set for this afternoon.

Stayman and the other visiting federal representatives arrived early Wednesday morning. They will be at the current issues class of Sam McPhetres at Northern Marianas College late this afternoon, before leaving the island tonight.

Stayman has been to the CNMI several times while Edwards is here for the first time. Prior to becoming a committee staffer, Edwards worked for U.S. Sen. Frank Murkowski starting in 1997 and then for Sen. Lisa Murkowski since 2003.

The Fitial administration, which sued the federal government over federalization, said the very premise of federalization indicates economic harm for the CNMI.

"Federalization rests on the assumption of significant immigration restrictions: restrictions on foreign workers, restrictions on foreign investors, and restrictions on foreign students and tourists. Such onerous restrictions can only cause economic harm for the Commonwealth. The federal government cannot severely restrict our access to foreign labor, foreign capital, and foreign students and tourists without causing major economic hardship for our islands," Fitial had said.



# Man who damaged 3 vehicles gets 15-day sentence

Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a 15-day prison term yesterday on a man accused of damaging three vehicles that were parked in front of a warehouse in Gualo Rai.

Wiseman sentenced Julian Phillip Nekaifes Defang to three

years in prison, all suspended except for 15 days, for one count of criminal mischief.

Wiseman gave Defang credit for the 15 days he has already served in jail, which means he was released yesterday.

The judge placed Defang on three years of supervised proba-

tion and required him to pay a restitution, a \$100 fine, \$25 court assessment fee, and probation fee.

Wiseman ordered the defendant to perform 100 hours of community service.

A review hearing to determine whether Defang is complying with the terms and conditions of

his suspended sentence will be held on Nov. 18, 2009.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Defang with three counts of criminal mischief for damaging three vehicles belonging to Nry Yin and Jin Wen Ma.

The OAG alleged that on May

4, 2009, the defendant damaged the victims' 2009 Nissan Rogue, Toyota Echo sedan, and Toyota Tacoma pickup truck.

Defang signed a plea agreement with the OAG. He pleaded guilty to one count of criminal mischief. The remaining charges were dismissed as part of the agreement.

According to a police report, on May 4 at 12:24am, Yin and Ma were inside the warehouse of Kesy Marketing when they heard voices outside. The couple live on the second floor above the warehouse.

When they heard a man shouting and someone banging on the warehouse's front door, Yin called 911.

Responding police officers followed a trail of blood leading

to a nearby abandoned building where they saw Defang hiding.

Defang told police that he had a companion but police did not find anyone else. At the police station, he denied having a companion, claiming that he chased someone who was stealing wires from the warehouse.

Defang said he injured his hand during the chase, making him mad. He told police that he shouted and threw pieces of wood at three parked vehicles.

The police saw pieces of wood resting on the vehicles' hoods. The windshields were shattered. The side mirrors of two vehicles were broken. Two of the vehicles had bloodstains on the side and hood.

The repair for the vehicles cost \$5,610. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## Reyes wants to require CUC to pay for appliances damaged by outages

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

House Commerce and Tourism Committee chair Rep. Joseph C. Reyes (R-Saipan) has filed a bill requiring the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to compensate consumers for damage to appliances and electrical devices caused by CUC's power fluctuation starting January 2008.

House Bill 16-272 said that due to CUC's unstable power supply, many residents have acquired additional financial expenses resulting from damaged electrical appliances and devices caused by power surges, voltage fluctuations or frequency fluctuations.

Reyes said in 2008 alone, CUC had over 3,100 hours of power outages on Saipan.

According to Reyes' office, the bill will be introduced in the next session, which is scheduled for today.

Reyes's bill seeks to amend Title 4, Division 8, Chapter 1, Article 5 of the Commonwealth Code.

In establishing liability for damages, the bill says consumer need only prove that the appliance or electrical device was damaged by a variation of frequency or a surge in power sup-

plied by CUC.

Under HB 16-272, any consumer claiming damages from CUC must file a claim with CUC within 90 days of the date of the alleged damage.

Those claims for damage to appliances or devices that have occurred from January 2008



Reyes

through the date of the enactment of the bill must be filed with CUC within 90 days of the date of the measure's enactment.

"Failure of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to provide compensation to a

consumer for damages covered by this section within 180 days of the filing of such claim shall result in the compensation amount being doubled," said HB 16-272.

The measure also requires CUC to promulgate regulations to carry out the provisions of this act within 120 days of its enactment.

It said CUC will be fined a penalty of \$500 a day for each day that it fails to promulgate regulations, and this amount shall be deposited into an account reserved for the purpose of compensating claims filed pursuant to this measure.

Besides filing a bill, Reyes also wrote to the Public Utilities Commission as early as

Dec. 2, 2008 to require the only cable television provider on island, KMCV, to consider providing rebates and adjustments to consumers who have paid their monthly fees but did not actually receive any services because of frequent power outages.

On Feb. 4, 2009, he sent another letter to the commission,

following up on his inquiry and adding that consumers whose appliances were damaged by the frequent power outages must also be compensated by CUC.

In that letter, he disclosed that a survey conducted by his office showed that some 56 respondents placed the value of their losses at \$63,395.

## It's Back-To-School Time!

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**ROTA CASINO GAMING COMMISSION**  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
POST OFFICE BOX 1547, ROTA, MP 96951  
PHONE: 1.670.532.7242  
EMAIL: [email@rotacasino.com](mailto:email@rotacasino.com)

PURSUANT TO THE OPEN GOVERNMENT ACT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION, DIEGO M. SONGAO HEREBY ANNOUNCES THAT THE ROTA CASINO GAMING COMMISSION'S REGULAR MEETING FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2009.

DATE: Friday, 28 August 2009

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Annex Building  
Rota Casino Gaming Commission's Office

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Adoption of Minutes
- V. Chairman's Report
- VI. Old Business
  - Funding Status
- VII. New Business
  - Junket Regulations (Draft)
  - Request for LWOP
- VIII. Miscellaneous
- IX. Adjournment

\*At anytime during the meeting, the Commission may move to Executive Session.

/s/ **DIEGO M. SONGAO**  
Chairman

24, August 2009



# Swine flu vaccine available soon in the CNMI

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health said it would soon release a flu vaccination guidance on the new H1N1 vaccine and how the vaccine would be distributed to the community.

DPH said the vaccines are expected to be available by mid-October.

It said the vaccines may be given in two doses and administered three to four weeks apart.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended target groups who should receive the vaccine first, including persons at high risk of infection and severe disease and persons at higher risk of exposure or transmission of the virus to those who may be at high risk.

The target groups include pregnant women, children and

young adults six months to 24 years old; persons 25 through 64 years old who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for flu-related complications; health care workers and emergency medical service workers; and persons who live with or care for infants younger than six months of age or those who are too young to be vaccinated.

Although there are just six confirmed cases of swine in the CNMI at the moment, DPH suspects that around a hundred individuals may have already contracted the H1N1 flu.

The Commonwealth Health Center recently limited the visiting hours at the hospital as part of the overall plan to prevent the further spread of the virus.

The new visiting hours is from 10am to 1pm and from 6pm to 8pm and the age limit for a visitor is 18. They also limit patients to one visitor at a time.

## DPS awards 6 civilians for rescuing 3 persons

The Department of Public Safety has recognized six civilians who played heroes when they saved the lives of three persons in two separate sea incidents on Saipan.

DPS Commissioner Santiago F. Tudela handed certificates of appreciation to Fan Chun Li, Eric Lister, Alvin Iglecias, Dion Iglecias, Joe Reyes, and Keith Tores.

Tudela expressed his gratitude to "these heroes for risking their lives and taking the time to rescue the victims."

Tudela and Boating Safety officers Sgt. Bernardo Santos and Police Officer II Florencio Falig commended the six civilians during a simple ceremony at the Boating Safety Section office in Smiling Cove Friday.

DPS spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday that Li, an employee of Big Boyz Jet Ski Co., helped a Chinese female from drowning



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Police Officer Emery Kaipat poses with five civilians who played heroes by saving the lives of two persons at Sugar Dock channel.

at the Susupe Regional Park on June 28, 2009.

Tarkong said Li was on a jet ski when he saw the victim shouting for help. Li assisted the victim by pulling her onto the jet ski and bringing her to shore.

In the second incident, Lister was surfing at Sugar Dock on

Aug. 8, 2009, when he saw Jerry Diaz, who was on a boogie board, being swept out to sea and outside the channel.

The weather at the time was bad and there were strong currents and large waves outside the reef line.

Tarkong said Lister sacrificed his life by paddling outside the reef and rescuing Diaz.

Lister helped Diaz by having him rest on the surfboard until they were rescued by passing

fishermen aboard a boat.

Tarkong said Alvin Iglecias, the captain of the boat, was with his son Dion and passengers Joe Reyes and Keith Torres.

The fishermen were heading back to Sugar Dock from trolling when they saw Lister and Diaz outside the reef waving for assistance.

The boat's crew pulled Lister and Diaz onto their boat and brought them to Sugar Dock. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## EMO warns of flooding due to heavy rain today

Based on the information received from National Weather Service in Guam and compiled by CNMI Emergency Management Office, showers and thunderstorms are developing near Saipan, Tinian and Rota. The moderate to heavy rainfall will last up to two hours followed by an hour and a half of light rainfall.

Excessive runoff from heavy rainfall will cause elevated levels on low lying areas and ponding of water on streets and as well as other poor drainage areas. Areas that are mostly affected are San Roque, Tanapag, Garapan, Chalan Kanoa, San Antonio, Susupe, Koblerville and Kanat Tabla.

EMO is strongly advising the public, especially motorists, to take extra precautionary measures while driving on the roadways for possible debris. *(EMO)*

### BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
ACT OF 2006

ADMINISTRATIVE DOCKET

#### NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission provides public notice that it is considering the adoption of an administrative order governing certificates of public convenience and necessity for telecommunications services in the Commonwealth pursuant to its authority under 4 CMC §§ 8409[m][4] and 8457. The proposed order is available for public inspection at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's office at the Family Building, Garapan Street, Garapan and on the Chamber's website: [www.saipanchamber.com](http://www.saipanchamber.com).

The Commission invites public comment regarding the proposed order, which should be submitted by either hand delivery to the Chamber's office or by email to [kyle.calabrese@gmail.com](mailto:kyle.calabrese@gmail.com) not later than September 1, 2009. Inquiries regarding the proposed order should be referred to Commissioner Calabrese at the above email address.

August 19, 2009.

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Hotel & Casino

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## Baka moves to OAG Criminal Division, helps DPS

Former acting Attorney General Gregory Baka has joined the Criminal Division of the Attorney General's Office starting yesterday, Aug. 26.

Baka, a former federal attorney, has previous experience in criminal law and will take over the caseload previously handled by current Attorney General Ed

Buckingham.

"Mr. Baka will apply his skills to improve existing case management systems as part of an effort to develop sentencing guidelines and improve consistently within the Criminal Division," said Attorney General Ed Buckingham.

In addition, Baka will serve as



Baka

Santiago F. Tudela expressed

counsel to the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. Commissioner

appreciation for receiving legal support, as legal issues, training and litigation are ongoing challenges for police officers.

Chief Prosecutor Kevin Lynch welcomed Baka to the Criminal Division and noted that they have had a successful

ongoing professional relationship as members of the Office of the Attorney General.

"Greg will strengthen the Criminal Division and I look forward to working with him," said Lynch.

"I do not have any specific plans, except to be as supportive and helpful as possible, which I can continue to do wherever I

am located," said Baka.

After Buckingham's confirmation, Gov. Benigno Fitial expressed appreciation for Baka's service as acting attorney general for a period of some 10 months. Fitial expressed confidence that Baka, a former federal attorney, will be an asset to the CNMI's criminal division. (PR)

## Tinian solves stray dog problem

**SAN JOSE, TINIAN**—Stray dogs are no longer a problem on Tinian, according to the Tinian Mayor's Office, due to the success of its dog control program.

Beginning in 2006, the municipal dog control program has been capturing, housing, and caring for sick and stray dogs. Three years later, the program still works, and the island has been free of the usual problems plaguing other islands.

That's because stray dogs often attack farm animals, attack people's garbage and make a mess, cause disease to spread, and scare or even attack tourists and joggers.

"The veterinarian, Dr. Dela Cruz, was just here, and we'll be calling him back again," said Mike Evangelista. The veterinarian makes routine trips to Tinian for the purpose of treating the dogs in the kennels.

Stray dogs are not the only dogs that are put in the kennels.

"This dog [referring to a recently captured black dog] was given



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

New dog owner Ray M. Cing just paid a tagging fee before he can take home his new dog. The Tinian dog control program encourages residents to adopt the dogs and tag their existing dogs.

up by its owner," said Evangelista. "Instead of killing it or letting it go into the wild, he called us."

"We encourage other residents to adopt dogs, and today we found a new owner for this dog," he added with a smile.

The new owner is Ray Cing, a Tinian resident. The procedure for adopting one of the dogs in the custody of the dog control program is to pay a \$10 tagging

fee. The dog is then free to go with its new owner.

Currently all dogs on Tinian are tagged. Dogs without tags are considered homeless and are immediately picked up by the dog controllers.

Contact the Tinian & Aguiguan Dog Control Program office at 433-1800 for more information on how to adopt a dog or to report stray dogs in your area. (PR)

## MTEC opens doors to new members

The Marianas Tourism Education Council is opening its doors to new members and is inviting interested individuals to attend its next meeting on today, Aug. 27, at 3pm at Marianas Visitors Authority.

MTEC was formed in November 2006 to foster and improve community understanding of the visitor industry; to educate the general public, especially school students, about the value, social benefits and economic contribution made to the community by the visitor industry; and to instill, improve and

promote the "Hafa Ada-Tirow" hospitality spirit throughout the Northern Marianas.

"Tourism is everybody's business, and we are looking for new ways to partner with our community, especially our youth, in support of the industry," said MTEC president Ed Cho, GM of Saipan Grand Hotel. "We welcome anyone who wants to join us in this important educational effort."

Any person, business entity, association, organization or agency can become an MTEC

member by volunteering to support the council's activities or by making a monetary or in-kind contribution of \$200 or more.

Most recently, MTEC granted cash prizes to the schools with the most participation in the 2009 Islandwide Cleanup organized by Beautify CNMI. MTEC will hold its annual election for board members in September.

For more information, contact Martin Duenas at Marianas Visitors Authority at 670.664.3200. (MVA)

### 360 Revolving Restaurant 360

#### Romantic Dinner

Romance is in the air at 360 every Wednesday!

**Wednesday Happy Hour**  
5pm - 7pm

Invite your special someone and enjoy a Romantic Dinner for Two.

For more information please call us at 287-4639, 234-3600 or 285-0360 Fax: 234-1611  
E-mail: [reservations@360saipan.com](mailto:reservations@360saipan.com)

### Banquet Promo @ 360

For Parents With Christening Or Birthday Celebrants.

Buffet selections at a very affordable rate, starting at \$12.00 only. Great view, ample parking and excellent food and service. A minimum of 25-50 persons required.

### THURSDAY'S Ladies night

5PM - 10PM

**\$3 Mojito's**

Free crispy nachos with guacamole and salsa.

**Happy Hour on all Bar Drinks!!!**  
except bottled wines

### Prime Rib Night

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

The Best Prime Rib on the Island!

Monday and Tuesday  
50% on all alcoholic drinks, except bottled wine.

Saturday and Sunday  
50% on all alcoholic drinks, except bottled wine.

### 360 Revolving Restaurant 360

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#### Friday Night Specials @ Beer Garden

**Bucket of Beer**  
(6 cans in a bucket)  
for only **\$13.50**

**Margarita Pitcher (48oz.)**  
for only **\$15**

**Sauza Margarita glasses**  
**\$3.00**

**Sauza Tequila Shot**  
**\$2**

**Becks and Stella or Special**  
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Enter to WIN every time you purchase a bucket of buds, or Sauza Margarita pitcher!

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FOR SENATOR WHY NOT!

**PETE P. REYES**

*Lunch Fundraiser Invite*

Join **Senator Pete P. Reyes**

at a Lunch Buffet on August 27, 2009  
from **11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at

**Raraina, Aqua Resort Club.**

Donation: \$35.00.

Tickets will be available at the door.

Senate President Reyes advocates and practices an open door policy. In fact, his individual office within the Office of the Senate President, is truly an "Office of the People" because it is the only member's office at the Legislature that does not even have a door.

Under his leadership, the Senate makes its official records accessible to the public with or without senate floor actions. And he is always very responsive to inquiries by the media and members of the public.

Among his many achievements, Senator Reyes succeeded in making the Legislative Bureau applicable to the Open Government Act. While he continues to push for full access to the entire CNMI Legislature, Senator Reyes, as he always has, provides a detailed accounting of his office's expenditure of public funds. And, all records in his office are always available for review. Why Not keep him in the Senate!

**A Public Servant YOU can rely on!**

**REYES, Pete Pangelinan**  
(Republican)

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Senator Pete P. Reyes





## NMI coastal zone programs get \$1.03M

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce announced yesterday a grant of \$1,027,200 to fund the CNMI Coastal Zone Management programs. The annual funding is

distributed by formula to U.S. states and territories.

"This is 17<sup>th</sup> year that NOAA has provided a grant to the Commonwealth for the important environmental protection programs administered by the

Coastal Resources Management Office," said U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP). "As always, we appreciate this assistance, which is just a small part of the \$130 million that comes to the Northern Mariana Islands

CCR is available upon request.

■ Community water systems serving 500 or fewer people (hotels, garment factories, etc.) may either post the CCR in an appropriate location for their resident workers, or post a notice that the CCR is available upon request.

■ Every community water system must make its CCR available to the public upon request.

Community water systems are urged to contact CCR coordinator Julie dela Rosa at 664-8500/01 for any questions about the CCR Certification. (DEQ)

## Water systems reminded of CCR submission

The Division of Environmental Quality is reminding all water systems in the CNMI to submit their Consumer Confidence Report certification form to DEQ by Oct. 1, 2009.

The form certifies that the water company has distributed the CCR to its customers and that the information is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to DEQ.

CCR distribution methods include:

■ Mail or deliver one copy of the report to each customer

■ Systems that bill customers by mail should mail a copy of the CCR to each billed customer. Enough copies of the CCR should be sent to single billed customers that have multiple residential units, such as apartment buildings, so that each residential unit can receive a copy.

■ Bottle water companies should direct deliver the CCR to each of their customer's homes during home deliver of water, deliver copies of the CCR to retail outlets for distribution with retail sales, and post notices on bulk water retail tanks that the

each year from the United States government."

The annual coastal resources grant provides support for land development permit application review and processing, development project permit compliance, monitoring, and enforcement, geospatial data coordination, geographic information services and analysis, watershed and non-point source pollution management planning, special area management planning, and public outreach and education.

This year's award also supports new initiatives such as wetlands valuation and a "no net loss" policy for wetlands. (PR)

## Water outage in As Matuis, San Antonio and Achugao

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has scheduled a water outage in As Matuis homestead, San Roque and Achugao areas on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009, from 7:30am to 6:30pm. On Saturday Aug. 30, 2009, customers in these areas can expect low water pressure.

CUC said its water distribution maintenance crew is scheduled to work on the As Matuis Reservoir to seal all hole and openings, inspect, clean and disinfect the storage tank. This work is necessary to protect treated stored water and provide improved overall water quality for public consumption. This will enable the Water Division to comply with the stipulated order concerning drinking water operations and maintenance in correcting major sanitary deficiencies cited during storage tanks inspections. Water service will be restored to affected customers as soon as the work is completed.

Residents are encouraged to practice strict water conservation and to teach children and household workers to save water, especially during this period. Rainwater catchments systems/water tanks should be cleaned and float valves installed or replaced to ensure that water does not overflow from any tanks.

For more information, contact Bruce Megarr, deputy director for Water and Wastewater Operations, at 235-7025-235-7032 Ext. 172 or Mariano R. Iglecias, Water and Wastewater operations manager at Ext. 152. (CUC)



## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Cartrina Azlyn Borja Salas, who is celebrating her birthday today, Aug. 27! Wishing you all the fun and excitement your birthday can bring. We love yah!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug 27, 1999

### Senate tightens rules for entry of workers

Senators yesterday put into motion a measure that will tighten requirements for submission of health certificates and police clearance by alien workers seeking entry into the CNMI. Under a proposed bill they approved ahead of a congressional oversight hearing scheduled for next month, nonresidents who wish to seek employment in the Northern Marianas must secure these requirements from a list of US-approved hospitals, clinics and agencies from their country of origin. The legislation is part of the reform measures which local officials want to put in place in a bid to block attempts in the U.S. Congress to strip local authority over labor and immigration.

### DPS mulls off-island detention for inmates

The Department of Public Safety is looking into the possibility of sending some inmates to the U.S. mainland in order to ease overcrowding at the corrections and pare down expenditures of the agency. Public Safety Commissioner Charles Ingram said the proposal will cut down the department's daily expenses in feeding and providing security to inmates by as much as \$70. Currently, DPS spends some \$130 per day for each prisoner. Initially DPS is considering prisoners held in maximum and medium security who have at least three more years to do in jail for off-island detention.

Aug 27, 2001

### Government expenditures fall 10 pct.

Strict compliance with its self-imposed austerity measures allowed the administration of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to cut its spending by more than ten percent in the first three months of the current financial year, representing \$6 million total savings. Records from the Department of Finance, contained in a Department of Commerce report prepared by the Central Statistics Division, disclosed the Tenorio Administration spent only about \$50.5 million in the October to December 2000 period. Intensified cost-cutting steps and tighter monitoring of unnecessary spending were the major factors that helped the administration slash government expenditures from \$56.8 million during the fourth quarter of the Fiscal Year 2000 to \$50.5 million in the first three months of this financial year.

### US Postal Service urged to catalog territories in stamps

A concurrent resolution is now pending before the US House of Representatives that would require the US Postal Service to come up with postage stamps that would commemorate the states and territories that make up the United States, including the CNMI. House Concurrent Resolution 215, which was authored by Guam Rep. Robert A. Underwood, urges Congress to direct the US Postal Service to come up with a series of postage stamps to commemorate each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories of Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the CNMI and Puerto Rico. The measure, filed on August 2, has been referred to the Committee on Government Reform. To be known as the "E Pluribus Unum series," the issuance of these postage stamps "would increase public awareness of the diversity among the jurisdictions that together form the United States," Underwood said.

Aug 27, 2002

### Elected AG for NMI proposed

In the wake of the abrupt resignation of Attorney General Robert T. Torres, House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider said this could be the perfect time to revisit the issue of having an elected Attorney General. "We've raised that in the past and I think it's time to revisit that idea again. There are jurisdictions in place that we can look at so we could weigh the pros and cons and make a determination appropriately," said Hofschneider. He conceded, though, that given the challenges of local self-government and the complexities arising from the fact that almost everyone is related to everyone in the Commonwealth, these factors complicate the issue of the Attorney General's position.

### Public schools to undergo repairs

Majority of old public schools in the Commonwealth will undergo renovation and repair following the discovery of worn-out materials and termite-infested facilities. Following the completion of three schools on Saipan, the Public School System now embarks on a major renovation of dilapidated public schools on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

## DCCA CHILD CARE PROGRAM OPENS FOR NEW APPLICANTS (Saipan)

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will be doing a pre-eligibility assessment for new applicants for the Child Care and Development Fund (Child Care Program) for the island of Saipan. The pre-eligibility assessment will be done on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2009 at the Multi-Purpose Hall, between 5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. The first 100 applicants who qualify during the pre-eligibility assessment will be given an application to complete. When the 100 applications are out, the program will immediately close its issuance of applications.

Parents and/or guardians who are interested in applying for the program must go through the pre-eligibility assessment and will need to bring the following:

- Three (3) latest checkstubs showing the applicant's name, hours worked (at least 60 hours bi-weekly), hourly rate, and gross earnings (both parents)
- Most recent 1040 tax (both parents)
- School documents (class schedule, must be full time 12 credits)
- Training schedule

Completed applications along with the required documents should be forwarded to the Child Care Program Office, Capitol Hill no later than **Monday, Sept. 14, 2009 at 12:00p.m.** Incomplete applications as well as applications turned in after this time and date will not be accepted.

Completed applications should be forwarded to: DCCA Child Care Program Office  
Caller Box 10007  
Building no. 1347 Ascension Ct.  
Capitol Hill, Saipan  
Tel. No. 664-2575/76  
Fax No. 664-2570

**For this program opening approved applications will be funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and is only valid for one year.**

### Requirements:

#### Applicant of Household

1. Check stubs for the most recent three (3) pay periods for each parent or guardian
2. A copy of Identification Card for each parent or guardian (Passport, CNMI driver's license, Mayor's ID Card or entry permit)
3. A copy of your most recent 1040 Tax (each parent or guardian)
4. Residency: The applicant or guardian must be living in the CNMI  
Provide one of the following documents
  - a. House Rental/ Mortgage
  - b. Utility Receipt
  - c. Telephone Receipt
  - d. Entry Permit
5. Employment verification
6. Child support statement/stub
7. Training/Education Verification and class schedules
8. If single parent/guardian in a household provide notarized affidavit

#### Child/Children Household member:

1. A copy of Birth Certificate for each child (Child must be a US citizen or a qualified alien, as defined in Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA))
2. A copy of US Passport
3. A copy of Social Security Card





# Joeten's Best Buys of the Week!

August 27, thru September 2

**DEPARTMENT STORE**

Willow Laundry Basket

**\$8<sup>99</sup>**



Split Willow Hamper

**\$18<sup>99</sup>**



**BANANA LEAF BASKET**

Large

**\$14<sup>99</sup>**

Medium

**\$10<sup>49</sup>**

Small

**\$6<sup>99</sup>**

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DANDAN SUPERMARKET  
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MON. THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 9:00P.M.

HABA-ADAI SHOPPING CENTER  
TEL.: 234-7596  
MON. THRU SUN. 8:00A.M. - 11:00P.M.

KAGMAN MARKET  
TEL.: 256-6441  
MON. THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 10:00P.M.

## Supermarket

Western Family  
Whole Kernel Corn

15.25 oz.

**75¢**



Western Family  
Evaporated Milk

12 oz.

**89¢**



Mata Rose  
Calrose Rice 40lb.  
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**SALE**  
**\$19<sup>99</sup>**

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**NEW ARRIVALS!**

12" 110 Volt  
60hz Desk Fan  
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18" Stand Fan  
110 Volt with Remote  
sku# 6139034

**\$49<sup>99</sup>**

16" 110 Volt  
Wall Mount Fan  
sku# 6139059

**\$34<sup>99</sup>**

18" 110 Volt  
High Velocity Fan  
sku# 6139091

**\$69<sup>99</sup>**

30" 110 Volt  
Tower Fan  
sku# 6139033

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# Opinion

Hafa Adail

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### Following the torture trail

**A**n old story," CIA Director Leon Panetta said this week upon the release of a report by the agency's inspector general on the interrogation of terrorist suspects. Old, perhaps—the report was completed in 2004—but nonetheless revolting.

The line between authorized interrogation techniques and those that were not approved seems capricious. Which is worse: Withholding sleep for 11 days or threatening to kill someone's children? Waterboarding or revving a power drill near a naked, hooded detainee? The first were blessed by the lawyers at the Bush Justice Department, who pronounced, incredibly, that they did not constitute torture. President Obama and Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. have said, correctly in our view, that CIA operatives who acted in good-faith reliance on that twisted advice will not be subject to criminal prosecution.

What to do, then, about conduct that was not explicitly allowed? The flip side of shielding those who followed the rules is that those who went beyond what was permitted are subject to being charged with torture. It's impossible to say, on the basis of the information made public so far, whether prosecution is warranted. In the version of the inspector general report released this week, enormous sections are blacked out, and a separate report by the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility has not yet been released. But Mr. Holder's move to have a special prosecutor conduct a preliminary criminal review appears justified. His choice, John Durham, a career Justice Department prosecutor from Connecticut, has already been investigating the related matter of the destruction of videotapes of the interrogations.

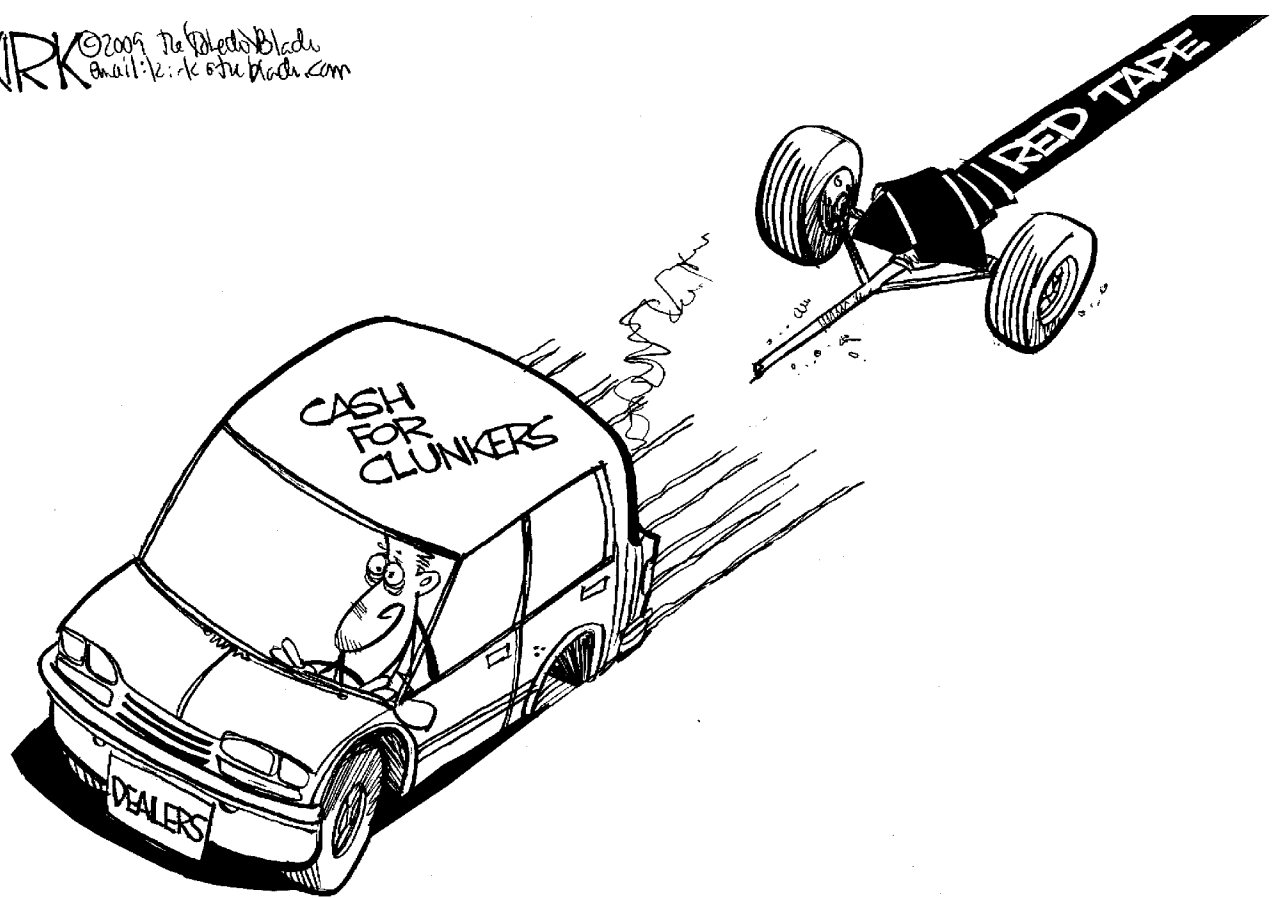
Still, there are aspects of using the criminal law in this unfortunate circumstance that give us pause. For one, the conduct at issue appears already to have been referred to the Justice Department—the Bush Justice Department—and prosecution was declined. There is something unsettling about telling operatives that they are off the hook, only to have that stance change with a new administration. For another, the report underscores what little appetite the CIA had for getting back into the business of ugly interrogation (it had been so burned that it changed the term, at one point, to "human resource exploitation"); the agency was clamoring constantly for guidance about what it should and should not do.

Most tellingly, the report shows how clearly those involved in the interrogations foresaw the moment when, having been pressured by higher-ups to elicit information that high-value detainees were thought to be withholding, they would find themselves called to account for their actions.

The real culprits in this sordid story are those higher-ups, starting with former President George W. Bush and former Vice President Dick Cheney, who led America down the degrading path of state-sanctioned torture and left the next administration to cope with the fallout.

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## Music did a number on me

By MARK STEINBERG  
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

**I**n a recent interview in Harper's Magazine, Dr. Oliver Sacks, the respected Columbia University neurologist, argued that intensive musical training had a profound effect on young brains. He noted a study that showed children with a single year of violin training demonstrated striking positive change in their left hemispheres.

Although it's been ages since I last had someone look at either of my hemispheres, I believe I'm a walking exception to Sacks' generalization. Music did, in fact, have a profound impact on me in my formative years, but I've spent the succeeding 50 years digging out of the impact crater.

It is not a pretty story.

My adventures with the violin grew out of my father's weakness for booze and maudlin music. He sated both cravings at a bar in Chicago named the Blue Danube, where Bela Babai and His Fiery Gypsies held forth nightly.

Bela's principal claim to fame was his rendering of "Hot Canary," a piece that lent itself to a style of violin playing that involved locating the right note by sliding the finger up and down the string to find it, rather than placing the finger exactly where it belonged. The beauty of Bela's approach was that to the musically clueless, his slides imparted emotion rather than uncertainty. In short, Bela could cheat and get away with it.

According to family legend, when I was 4 years old, my father brought me to the Blue Danube, presumably as the designated driver. There, I was reportedly so transfixed by Bela's playing and passion that it was clear to all I should immediately start violin lessons.

And so began my 15-year exile from pretty much everything I wanted to do.

I don't remember much about my violin teachers before my teens. What I do remember is the mantra that bound all of them into a snarling pack: "Practice."

My practice area was a knotty-pined, linoleumed basement, and I did not go gently into that dark place. Typically, after failing to convince my mother that I had practiced while she was at the store or in the bathroom, I would stomp down the 18 stairs, turn on and mute the TV, tune the violin for about 15 minutes, then play a piece I had learned three years earlier.

It goes without saying that I made little progress, a fact that none of my cash-poor violin teachers saw fit to mention to my parents. And notwithstanding the four good ears my mother and father shared between them, they decided I was ready for the next step on my path to virtuosity, a summer at the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Mich.

Interlochen was a prison camp for brilliant nerds, kids who flawlessly played 15 instruments, sometimes simultaneously. And then there was me.

I was not a happy camper. After spending two more summers at Interlochen, I argued to my parents that I needed a greater challenge. They bought it. Unfortunately, they also went out looking for

a greater challenge, which is how a humorless Chicago Symphony string player became my new teacher.

One day, my teacher announced that I was to begin preparing for an audition to play with the Chicago Symphony. I waited for the punch line, but he just looked at me. Only then did my synapses flash the message that this nut job was going to subject me to the greatest humiliation of my life, a privilege theretofore reserved to my parents.

I began work on the Vivaldi concerto in A minor, a piece you would know if you ever traveled more than four floors in an elevator. Motivated by hysteria, I began to practice. I practiced all the time and even stopped watching TV with the sound off when I practiced.

The day of the audition came too soon. The orchestra hall stage was empty, and there were only two people in the auditorium, my teacher and the assistant conductor of the symphony. I had barely walked on the stage when I was instructed to begin playing. In the middle of the 12th bar, I was told to stop playing.

My teacher came backstage and told me I would get a letter telling me if I had made the team. I didn't have much doubt about the outcome but hoped the envelope wouldn't be addressed to "Occupant."

Two weeks later the letter arrived. I was informed that I was to be one of a group of four young violinists who would perform a Vivaldi concerto (B minor, for you aficionados) with the orchestra.

Our rehearsals went pretty well. The conductor, occasionally fortified by something that looked but didn't smell like cream soda, was gentle.

When the day of reckoning came, I was pumped. I marched our group onto the stage, acknowledged the applause and signaled that we were ready to roll.

About 10 bars into the performance, the conductor stared briefly at me. Ten bars later, he did it again. By the end of the first movement, I had developed a twitch. By the end of the concerto, I had sweated through my clip-on tie. I could only conclude that a conductor's job included looking regularly at a soloist to make sure he was breathing or not peeing down his leg.

The concert had been broadcast on a local FM station, and a cousin recorded it for me. The first few bars sounded pretty good. We were playing in tune, in rhythm and together. Then something happened. Someone was hitting the notes sharp, then sliding into the right position. Every 10 bars or so the same thing happened.

It was I, of course, who was the someone and, unlike Bela Babai's fans at the Blue Danube, no one in the Chicago Symphony or the audience had mistaken my technique for passion.

For a few weeks after the concert, I saw pity or disdain in every face I passed, a sense that I had failed at something I should have done pretty well, or which at least deserved a gentleman's "C."

This wasn't an outcome that Sacks would have predicted, and the reason is pretty clear. He had failed to work into his equation the possibility that although you can blast Bach 24/7 at a kid, it'll never trump parents who believe that effective child-rearing requires practice—but only by the child.

Steinberg, a retired attorney, served in the State and Justice departments during the Clinton administration.



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The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Freeing yourself from your business

The couple sat across the table from us and there was obvious frustration in their voices as they explained the dilemma they faced in their business. After starting and successfully building a business that grossed over one million dollars per year, they realized they had created a prison that consumed their lives.

"I feel like I'm in a tunnel and I just can see the light of day," exclaimed the man.

Their situation was not unlike many small business owners who move past the start-up stage, and make the sacrifices to create some stability and good money. However, the time demands didn't let up and they found that the sacrifices they thought were temporary had become an everyday grind in their lives.

We asked them to describe their future ideal situation, and the man said that right now he was the bottleneck in the business and he could not leave for one day without worrying about something going wrong. His dream was to someday unexpectedly tell his staff that he would not be coming to work for the next month and for it to operate smoothly without him there.

Typically we work with businesses to improve their marketing, and find that their management practices need attention so that they can handle the increased sales. In this case, we focused our full attention on how the business was managed and started implementing policies, procedures, and process maps.

Process maps can help you tweak your effectiveness to get the desired results you're looking for in your organization. They can also help you take more time off from work, and operate more efficiently. Process maps improve communication by showing the flow of information and workloads. They allow you to quickly identify

bottlenecks and remove problem areas so you can gain solid control of your operations.

When implemented correctly throughout your organization, process maps will allow you to make systematic and dramatic improvements. The bottom line results are cost savings, innovations for continued growth, and more time to focus on moneymaking activities in your business.

To create effective policies and procedures, you should identify your current procedures. Like going to a doctor's office, you must diagnose your business practices so you can realistically understand your current situation before you establish your goals. Determine the risks, costs, the critical path and any constraints within your organization so you can pinpoint problem areas that keep you from achieving optimal results.

Create flow charts and checklist. Document any steps or practices that you have and want to develop so you can review, measure and tweak the process for improvement. If you have a larger organization, there may be someone or a department that has achieved better results than the others. There may be people within your organization that have the expertise to create an effective process or create checklists to get a goal accomplished. Use those individuals and their practices as the baseline to make continued improvements.

By documenting your efforts, you make it much easier for new employees to get up to speed quickly. You can show the policies, procedures, and process maps to new hires, and train them to follow the procedures that have worked successfully.

To grow your company exponentially, you want ongoing feedback from everyone on your team to make adjustments that will continue to set the bar higher. A lot of your intellectual capital is in

### By RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is a partner with BizResults, LLC. They can be contacted at biz\_results@yahoo.com.*



the brains of your employees. A visual process map makes it easy to communicate to others, get their support and achieve a result and outcome faster.

After working with the company for about a year, we created policies and procedures that allowed the owner to delegate a lot of the workload to other people. He spent less time on the day-to-day operations and more time looking for opportunities that increased sales and profits. He was able to pursue other contracts and within a year, sales more than doubled.

However, the greatest benefit came one evening when his wife and children were going to the U.S. to visit family and he went into the bedroom of his daughter to give her a goodnight hug before she left in the morning. The daughter pleaded for him to go with the family, so he called the airlines, booked a flight, and the next morning he called his staff to tell them that he would be gone for the next six weeks.

His business operated smoothly while he was in the U.S. and he was not only able to see the light at the end of the tunnel, he completely left the tunnel by freeing himself from his business by implementing policies, procedures, and process maps.

## Letters to the Editor

### Open letter to the 16th Commonwealth Legislature

It is very likely that each of you has a family member or a neighbor or a friend with a mental illness who needs protection and care. And it is very likely that each of you has a family member or a neighbor or a friend with a child needing special education services. Are you aware that approximately 8% of students in special education in the Commonwealth have autism and that it is imperative that these children have early intervention services in order for those services to be effective?

In the past, the Legislature unfortunately rejected proposed legislation that would have allowed the Public School System to hire non-resident special education teachers and related service providers and also rejected proposed legislation that would have allowed the Public School System to offer the salaries required to hire State-side special education teachers and related service providers. As a result, PSS has been unable to provide adequate special education and related services required and needed by students in the Special Education Program. While parents and families of children with disabilities have been patient and understanding and as a result have not filed for due process or other litigation which would be expensive and further reduce the resources available for PSS, their children are being deprived of the education and services to which they are entitled. For many of these children, their need for special services is urgent and, if not provided while they are still young, may not be effective.

Early in your term of office, draft legislation was submitted to you for consideration regarding issues facing persons with mental

illness and children with autism. With only four months remaining in your terms of office, we would like to request that you take immediate action to enact the following proposed legislation into law.

#### Regarding children with autism:

**HB 16-153:** To require health insurance coverage of the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders in individuals under 21 years of age.

**HB 16-154:** To establish a special education scholarship program for students pursuing a post-graduate or post-baccalaureate degree in special education.

**HB 16-155:** To provide to the parent of any qualified special education child a scholarship in order that child may receive special education and/or related services that implement the child's individualized education program (IEP).

**HB 16-156:** To establish a comprehensive autism training program in the CNMI.

#### Regarding mental health:

**H.B. 16-157:** To establish a procedure for determining incompetency of adults with serious disabilities, including but not limited to mental illness and developmental disabilities, while protecting the fundamental right of individuals to determine his own course of medical treatment and to control decisions affecting his own property and personal affairs..

**PROPOSED:** The Advance Directive and Assisted Outpatient Treatment Act to establish a method for individuals with serious disabilities, including but not limited to mental illness and developmental disabilities, to determine their own course of medical treatment and to control decisions relating to the individual's mental health care, and to insure the safety of the public by establishing an available treatment system, consistent with constitutional rights of equal protection, due process, and privacy.

**PROPOSED:** Guardianship Act to provide for appointment of a guardian for incompetent persons while preserving for the incompetent person the right to participate as fully as possible in all decisions that will affect him and the opportunity to exercise those rights that are within his comprehension and judgment.

**PROPOSED:** The Mental Health Care in the Department of Corrections Act to insure adequate and appropriate mental health care for persons coming within the criminal justice system and in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

We also urge any member of the public with an interest in any of this proposed legislation to contact your representative and urge their immediate action before their terms expire. Thank you.

#### Jeanne H. Rayphand

*Legal counsel,  
Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.*

### An open letter to Mr. Antonio Muna

On Thursday, Aug. 13, 2009, I left my home early for the cathedral. At noon when I came home I found out that I did not have power and water. I said to myself, "One of those things again." I left to have lunch at Shirley's in Susupe. I took my sweet time because of the situation in my home—no power and water. I came home and said to myself, "How much longer is this going to be?"

At about 4:30pm, my grandson came was surprised to see me sitting with a fan in my hand. The family lives next door. He said there is power and water. He called his dad to help me.

My son-in-law called the trouble desk and they talked. The trouble desk suggested he check the meter if there is a black thing in it. True enough that was what he found. It was too late. The only thing left was to wait until tomorrow. I had to sleep in a warm room in the first floor of my house with a fan in my hand. I was drenched with sweat. I had to change clothes twice during the night. I got very little sleep.

I woke up early in the morning. I was in front of the CUC office at 7:25 and I was the first one to march into the office. I pay my bills through my AMEX so that I am assured of being able to pay on time while I travel, which I do frequently.

I was told that the card was declined because of the change of expiration date. I was guaranteed by AMEX that there won't be any interruption in the service. The CUC staff concerned did not give me a call. Even before the disconnection, I was not informed at all. I was totally in the dark.

Instead of making it easy for me and for CUC, CUC chose to make it difficult for me. A telephone call about the expiration date could have been solved through one phone call.

I have not been delinquent in any of my payments. This is why I have direct payment with my credit card—to guarantee payment on time.

Instead, my food in the refrigerator was spoiled and the contents of my freezer thawed.

CUC sent someone to disconnect early in the morning but sent someone to reconnect much later the following day.

It seems that it is easier for CUC to punish than to help. A little concern for your clients could have averted what happened to me. A telephone call about my credit card expiration date and information about the impending disconnections should have given me the chance to react positively. Instead, CUC did what they did without

due concern and consideration to customers.

On the same day a similar situation happened to a friend of mine. There was confusion in her payment for her utilities that she missed paying one of her bills. A CUC crew for disconnection arrived to cut off the service. No notice, they were just there to disconnect the service and no amount of negotiation and promise will stop them because they were ordered to disconnect.

My friend promised to go then and there to pay but to no avail. The disconnection happened. She had to pay the reconnection fee and some more in a matter of less than an hour.

The above are just two incidents that indicate that clients are not treated well, that customer service is needed, not customer disservice.

May I suggest and recommend that CDI of NMC help your agency by developing a customized customer service training for your whole staff. Let us have a heart.

Thank you.

#### Fe Y. Calixterio






*As Terlaje, Saipan*



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 76
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Yap	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 73
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 78
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 78

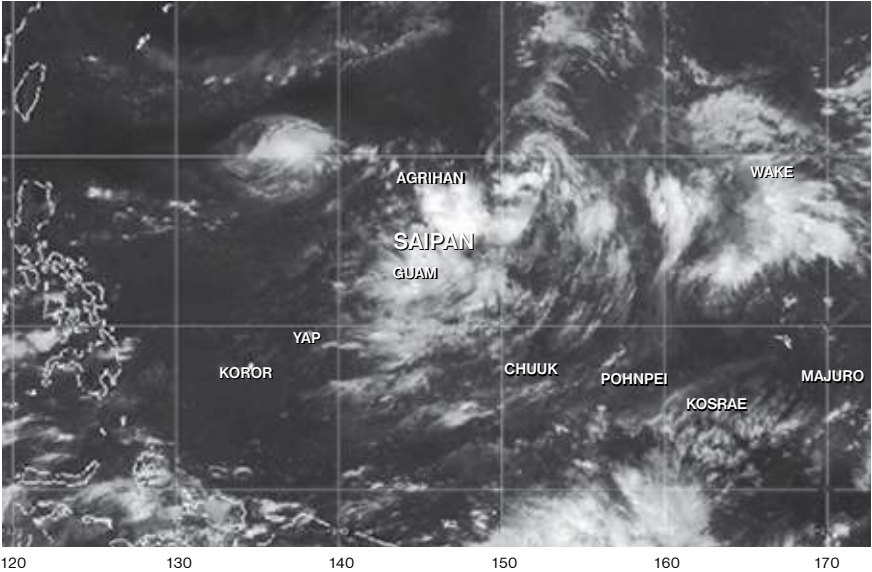
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 59 ▼ 49
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 68
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 91 ▼ 81
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 76
London	Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 91 ▼ 64
Manila	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 91 ▼ 79
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 63
Osaka	Partly Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 72
Paris	Partly Sunny	▲ 77 ▼ 64
Pusan	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 69
Rome	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 69
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲ 90 ▼ 56
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲ 80 ▼ 59
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 68
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲ 80 ▼ 70
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 66

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
7:01 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
2:15 PM Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
6:57 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2009**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward from 17N at 130E through a developing tropical disturbance centered northwest of the Marianas near 20N137E through a circulation near 21N151E then southward to end at a weak circulation centered northeast of Chuuk near 10N153E. Scattered showers are located west of the CNMI within 160 miles of the center of the developing tropical disturbance. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found over the Marianas between 19N and 10N from 143N to 152E and northeast of the Marianas within 100 miles of a line from 19N152E to 16N157E. Trade-wind convergence in combination with an upper-level trough extending from 25N169E to 14N163E is generating scattered showers around Wake Island between 20N and 13N from 159E to 169E and within 140 miles of a line from 15N170E to 25N174E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of the Marshall Islands between 7N and 1N from 172E to the dateline.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:09 PM	11:33 PM
Friday	1:03 PM	
Saturday	1:54 PM	12:24 AM
Sunday	2:43 PM	1:15 AM
Monday	3:29 PM	2:07 AM

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  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
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  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
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  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2009

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09597 11:50am 12:25pm 1, 7	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> C09598 3:15am 3:50am 5, 6 C09312 1:20pm 1:55pm 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM</b> C09597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1, 7	<b>GUAM-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09598 2:10am 2:40am 5, 6 C09312 12:10pm 12:40pm 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b> C09317 4:20am 5:10am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09597 11:50am 1:20pm 1, 7 via ROP C09601 12:30pm 1:20pm 4, 5 C09603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily C09605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b> C09598 2:10am 3:50am 5, 6 via ROP C09316 2:20am 3:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:20am 11:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C09312 12:10pm 1:55pm 6 via ROP C09602 2:00pm 2:50pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> C0941 5:30am 8:05am Daily NW99 6:05am 8:40am Daily NW78 9:00am 2:05pm Daily via NGO NW75 3:50pm 6:25pm Daily C0943 5:25pm 8:00pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> C0942 9:25am 1:55pm Daily NW76 10:00am 2:35pm Daily NW77 6:35pm 1:40am+1 Daily via NGO NW100 8:45pm 1:20am+1 Daily C0944 9:00pm 1:30am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:55pm 2:20am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)</b> NW78 9:00am 11:40am Daily	<b>NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN</b> NW77 9:10pm 1:40am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA</b> OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/703 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/933 3:30pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:45am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	<b>MANILA-SAIPAN</b> OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM OZ716/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6 via ICN
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b> OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b> OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily				FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily				FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily				<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily				FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily				FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily				FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily				FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily				FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily				FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily				FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily				FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily							
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily							



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Fiesta Resort ties up with CHC Volunteers Association

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Beginning Sept. 1, every bite you take of the healthy lunch menu at the Chambre Bar of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan will benefit the CHC Volunteers Association to finance projects for the island's lone hospital, the Commonwealth Health Center.

Fiesta's Food and Beverage Manager Das Krishnan said every guest who eats at the regular lunch buffet at Chambre Bar will have an opportunity to help the CHC Volunteers in their fundraising drives.

The lunch buffet's regular price of \$5.99 will be adjusted to \$6.99 but the \$1 increase would go to the CHC Volunteers.

Annie Benavente, the association's vice president, said this tie-up will boost their chances of buying a hyperbaric chamber for the hospital.

Benavente said this is an extremely important equipment for the island, especially for divers and diabetic patients.

A hyperbaric chamber is a sealed chamber in which a high-pressure environment is used primarily to treat decompression sickness, gas embolism, carbon monoxide poisoning, gas gangrene resulting from infection by anaerobic bacteria, tissue injury arising from radiation therapy for cancer, and wounds that are difficult to heal.

There is no such equipment at present on island.

In 2006, the CNMI Legislature appropriated \$300,000 to purchase one but this was later re-appropriated to



The daily lunch buffet at the Chambre Bar of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan features healthy choices. And now, eating there will support a worthwhile cause—the CHC Volunteers Association.

other matters, according to Benavente.

The CHC Volunteers' goal is to raise \$400,000 for the equipment.

Benavente said the CNMI Divers Association has also committed to help.

She said they had earlier contracted an Australia provider for the equipment but the company lost interest due to the long waiting period. The association has to look for another company to supply this type of machine.

There is also a need to build a separate facility for the hyperbaric chamber and to hire a technician.

"It's a big project that needs a big amount but it is so important for the community and we are very thankful for Fiesta Resort for this partnership," Benavente said.

The CHC Volunteers will be treating

the hospital's Workforce Investment Agency trainees to lunch at the Chambre Bar today.

The lunch buffet menu features variations on daily staples like mahi-mahi with tomato salsa, chicken rolled cabbage, yosenabe, broiled chicken breast with honey mustard sauce, and salmon with teriyake sauce.

The main dishes come complete with hot vegetables, tofu, soup, a wide selection from the salad bar, and more. They also serve brown rice and black rice. The menu for the whole week will be published in *Saipan Tribune's* Monday issue.

Krishnan emphasized, however, that reservations is a must since the restaurant can only accommodate up to 40 people. Call the F&B office at 233-6414.

**FOR RESERVATION**  
F&B office: 233-6414

## Military expert to keynote Guam real estate conference

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Douglas J. Katz, Vice Admiral in the U.S. Navy (retired), will arrive from Annapolis, Maryland to give the keynote speech at the 5th Micronesia Real Estate Investment Conference in October.

Katz had a distinguished Navy career covering the spectrum of naval and joint military operations at sea and shipboard system planning, programming and budgeting ashore. As former commander of the Naval Surface Forces for the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, he was responsible for approximately 50,000 personnel, 130 ships and an annual budget in excess of \$1 billion. He is currently on the board of directors for CAE-USA Inc., acting executive vice president for Guam Shipyard, and a consultant for Raytheon and Textron.

The Micronesia Real Estate Investment Conference is held every two years and hosted by the Captain Real Estate Group.

The slate of top international speakers at the conference includes Quentin Quin of ANZ Bank, Australia; Steve Bergsman, real estate author, Arizona; Steve Petersohn of LIM Advisors, Hong

Kong; Ross Murakami, KMH LLP, Hawaii; David McVeigh, RIM Architects, Alaska; Charles Duncan, Continental Airlines, Japan; Richard Moreno, Bridge Capital LLC, Saipan; and Victor Barrett, urban planner, Saipan as well as numerous other speakers from Guam.

W. Nicholas Captain, president of The Captain Real Estate Group, said, "The good news is that real estate investment in the region is very attractive at this time. The



Katz

prospect of the military buildup is keeping investors interested in Guam and its neighboring islands. This year's real estate investment conference should attract potential investors and anyone who is interested in hearing

the latest perspectives on real estate investment and related topics. For the first time, this year's event includes green topics such as sustainable development and conservation easements."

Hundreds of delegates are scheduled to attend the Conference on October 2 and 3 at the LeoPalace Resort. Registration is now open at [www.captainrealestate.com](http://www.captainrealestate.com), with an Early Bird Special for those registering before Sept. 10. (PR)



## CNMI Public School System

# New Hire Orientation

**Friday, August 28, 2009**

**Marianas High School Conference Room**

**8:00 AM-3:30 PM**

**"STUDENTS FIRST"**

*Refresh, Refocus, & Reenergize for new school year!*

**Human Resources Office**

P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950 • Phone: 670-237-3051/9 • Fax: 670-664-3707 • E-mail: [palaciosc@pss.cnmi.mp](mailto:palaciosc@pss.cnmi.mp) • [kentyc@pss.cnmi.mp](mailto:kentyc@pss.cnmi.mp)



# Business

## Most red ink ever: \$9 trillion over next decade

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a chilling forecast, the White House is predicting a 10-year federal deficit of \$9 trillion—more than the sum of all previous deficits since America's founding. And it says by the next decade's end the national debt will equal three-quarters of the entire U.S. economy.

But before President Barack Obama can do much

about it, he'll have to weather recession aftershocks including unemployment that his advisers said Tuesday is still heading for 10 percent.

Overall, White House and congressional budget analysts said in a brace of new estimates that the economy will shrink by 2.5 to 2.8 percent this year even as it begins to climb out of the recession. Those estimates

reflect this year's deeper-than-expected economic plunge.

The grim deficit news presents Obama with both immediate and longer-term challenges. The still fragile economy cannot afford deficit-fighting cures such as spending cuts or tax increases. But nervous holders of U.S. debt, particularly foreign bondholders, could demand interest rate increases that would

quickly be felt in the pocket-books of American consumers.

Amid the gloomy numbers on Tuesday, Obama signaled his satisfaction with improvements in the economy by announcing he would nominate Republican Ben Bernanke to a second term as chairman of the Federal Reserve. The announcement, welcomed on Wall Street, diverted attention from

the budget news and helped neutralize any disturbance in the financial markets from the high deficit projections.

The White House Office of Management and Budget indicated that the president will have to struggle to meet his vow of cutting the deficit in half in 2013—a promise that earlier budget projections suggested he could accomplish with ease.

## Consumer sentiment, home prices show signs of life

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans' pessimism about the economy appears to be lifting, with consumer expectations for the next six months hitting their most positive point since the recession began.

The improvement stems partly from the housing market, as a national gauge of home prices on Tuesday posted its first quarterly increase in three years.

The consumer and housing reports, along with President Barack Obama's reappointment of Ben Bernanke as Federal Reserve chief, sent the financial markets modestly higher. But economists warned that consumer confidence remains far below levels associated with a

healthy economy and might not lead to the increased spending critical for a broad recovery.

"People's spending decisions depend more on whether they have money in their pocket than on how they feel," said Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial. Still, Cheney and other economists said Tuesday's report on consumer sentiment was encouraging. The New York-based Conference Board said its Consumer Confidence index rose to 54.1, from an upwardly revised 47.4 in July. That reading reversed two months of decline and easily beat analysts' expectations.

Economists closely monitor confidence because consumer

spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity. Consumer sentiment, fueled by signs the economy is stabilizing, has recovered a bit since hitting a record-low of 25.3 in February.

A reading of 90 indicates the economy is on solid footing; anything above 100 signals strong growth.

Consumers' expectations for the economy over the next six months rose to 73.5 from 63.4 in July, the highest level since December 2007, when the recession began. The consumer confidence survey was sent to 5,000 households and had a cutoff date for responses of Aug. 18.

## Obama breaks vacation, keeps Bernanke at Fed

OAK BLUFFS, Mass. (AP)—President Barack Obama announced Tuesday he wants to keep Ben Bernanke on as Fed chairman, saying he shepherded America through the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

"Ben approached a financial system on the verge of collapse with calm and wisdom; with bold action and out-of-the-box thinking that has helped put the brakes on our economic freefall," said Obama, with Bernanke standing

by his side. "Almost none of the decisions he or any of us made have been easy."

Obama made the announcement while on vacation on the island of Martha's Vineyard off the coast of Massachusetts after aides said initially that the president intended a news-free week there. Both he and Bernanke sported the open-collar look.

Bernanke, 55, is credited with turning the economy away from its deepest and longest recession

since the 1930s. Now he faces the challenge of meeting White House expectations to chart the full economic recovery considered critical to Obama's legacy.

In sticking with a Republican for the nation's top banker, the Democratic president was aiming for stability at a time of continuing, though easing, crisis. The move was designed to reassure the U.S. financial sector as well as foreign central banks that the Obama administration isn't changing course on its largely well-received approaches to the financial meltdown and overall monetary policy.



Bernanke

## Papa John's founder pays \$250K for beloved Camaro



In this August 24, 2009 handout photo released by Papa John's Pizza, John Schnatter, the founder of Papa John's pizza, is seen Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009 outside his home in Louisville, Ky., with his beloved 1971 Z28 Camaro, which he sold in 1983 to keep his father's tavern afloat and ultimately launch Papa John's Pizza.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—With the help of a \$250,000 reward, the founder of the Papa John's pizza chain has finally reunited with the muscle car he sold years ago to help keep his family's business afloat.

John Schnatter sold the gold-and-black 1971 Chevrolet Camaro Z28 for \$2,800 in 1983. The money helped save his father's tavern in Jeffersonville, Ind., and he used the rest to start what would become a worldwide pizza business.

But he still missed his beloved Camaro and spent years searching for it. He created a

Web site on the search, held promotional appearances and eventually offered \$250,000 to whoever found it.

It turns out he didn't have to leave Kentucky, where the pizza chain is based in Louisville. The car only changed hands twice from the original buyers, ending up with Jeffery Robinson in Flatwoods, about 165 miles to the east.

"When I first saw it I still wanted to look it over to make sure it was the car even though I knew it," Schnatter told The Associated Press. "That kind of hit me emotionally. I was kind of numb."

### STOCK Portfolio

#### ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA 4,466.20 Up 48.70 (1.10%)	HONG KONG 20,530.25 Up 95.01 (0.46%)	JAKARTA 2,372.26 Down 8.26 (-0.35%)
TOKYO 10,647.93 Up 150.57 (1.43%)	K. LUMPUR 1,171.09 Down 3.40 (-0.29%)	MANILA 2,863.53 Up 5.38 (0.19%)
SINGAPORE 2,623.07 Up 4.31 (0.16%)	SEOUL 1,613.17 Up 11.79 (0.74%)	BANGKOK 659.89 Up 4.433 (0.68%)

#### LEADING INDICATORS

**DOW**  
9,539.29  
30.01

**NASDAQ**  
2,024.23  
6.25

**S&P**  
1,028.00  
2.43

#### MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.1950
British Pound	0.6124
Canadian Dollar	1.0854
Chinese Renminbi	6.8320
Euro	0.6993
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7504
Indian Rupee	48.7720
Indonesian Rupiah	10,037.5000
Japanese Yen	94.1800
Malaysian Ringgit	3.5270
New Zealand Dollar	1.4565
Philippine Peso	48.7240
Singapore Dollar	1.4420
South Korean Won	1,246.1250
Swiss Franc	1.0623
Taiwan Dollar	32.9190
Thailand Baht	34.0100

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Gain in consumer confidence sends stocks higher

NEW YORK (AP)—A rebound in consumer confidence and more healing in the housing industry have put stocks back on an upward path. Banks, retailers and homebuilders were Tuesday's biggest winners, helping to lift the major indexes about 0.3 percent. Energy and utility stocks fell sharply, and limited the overall market's advance, as oil prices cooled following a recent surge. Though investors were pleased by better-than-expected readings on consumers and housing, trading was choppy, as it has been over the past week, a reflection of the market's lingering caution. Investors are questioning how much further Wall Street's five-month rally can go without evidence of actual

economic growth.

#### Anheuser-Busch, MillerCoors: price hikes in fall

The nation's top brewers said Tuesday they plan to raise prices this fall, even as some of their top brands are seeing sales volume drop. Anheuser-Busch, maker of Bud Light and Budweiser, and MillerCoors, maker of Blue Moon and Miller Light, both say they're going to raise prices. But neither brewer would say how big the increases would be. Pete Marino, a spokesman for MillerCoors, said the increases will be made on a local basis, depending on the market. Anheuser-Busch said in a statement it plans on raising prices on a majority of its volume in the bulk of its markets this fall too, to cover some increases in its costs.

#### Bad citrus pest found in new S. Calif. location

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An invasive pest that can carry an incurable citrus blight and had been confined to the U.S.-Mexico border region has been found farther north in California, advancing what one expert calls the greatest threat in modern history for the state's \$1.6 billion citrus industry. Officials confirmed Tuesday that five Asian citrus psyllids were found on a backyard lemon tree in Santa Ana, 100 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border. The tiny pest can carry the disease huanglongbing, also known as citrus greening, which has ravaged citrus production overseas and in the southeast United States. Researchers are examining the psyllids to determine if they carried the disease.

#### Warner Chilcott buying P&G drug business for \$3.1B

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—Shares of Ireland's Warner Chilcott Plc skyrocketed Monday on news of its bid to morph from a small, specialty pharmaceutical company to a global player by buying Procter & Gamble Co.'s prescription drug business for \$3.1 billion. The maker of women's health and dermatology products will get a portfolio with \$2.3 billion in annual sales, including blockbuster osteoporosis drug Actonel, and triple its revenue in a rare deal financed entirely by bank debt. Overnight, Ardee, Ireland-based Warner Chilcott will greatly expand its women's health products, gain a toehold in the somewhat-complementary urology and gastroenterology markets,

and expand into 14 new countries, mainly in Western Europe.

#### NY prosecutors accuse investment banker of fraud

NEW YORK (AP)—A wealthy investment banker and prominent fundraiser for President Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and other top Democrats was arrested Tuesday on charges he lied to get a \$74 million business loan that—once confronted by authorities—he hastily repaid. Prosecutors accused Hassan Nemazee of giving Citibank documents showing he owned millions of dollars in collateral. They said the documents were "fraudulent and forged." At a brief appearance in federal court in Manhattan on Tuesday, a judge ordered a haggard-looking Nemazee locked up for the night.



# Nation

## Immigrants fight to bring adult children to US

**SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)**—Evelyn Santos began her quest for a green card nearly two decades ago, hoping someday she and her family could leave the Philippines and start a better life in the United States.

The opportunity came in 2007, but with a painful caveat: Her two elder sons were now too old to qualify as dependents, so they would have to stay behind.

The mother moved to Northern California with her husband and two younger children, and filed a new round of paperwork hoping to get at least one of her older sons into the country without another decade of waiting.

"I have a joke with my son—I am I still alive when you come here?" said Santos, 55, a supermarket clerk who lives in Livermore. "I am always praying somebody can help us in the government so we can bring my kids here."

Immigration attorneys say thousands of immigrants are stuck in a similar situation. In



Teresita Costelo shows a photo of herself, at right, with her two daughters, from left, Angelyn Costelo, Anne Theresa Costelo, and Anne's infant son Patrick Sebastian Gabriel, taken Jan. 3, 2009, in Manila at a party celebrating Patrick's first birthday, at her sister's home in Carson, Calif., Thursday, July 23, 2009. **AP**

children 21 and older cannot immigrate under their parents' applications for green cards.

Immigration attorneys say a 2002 law aimed at preventing children from "aging out" due to lengthy processing means these grown children should be allowed into the country soon after their parents file new paperwork on their behalf.

But the government argues that many of those who got too old during the wait are now new applicants and must start from the beginning.

"They want them to go from the front of the line, where they almost made it, and go to the back

of some other line that may be 10 to 20 years away, said Carl Shusterman, an attorney representing immigrants in one of the lawsuits. "It is like double jeopardy."

Robert Reeves, an immigration attorney who filed a nationwide class-action lawsuit in federal court in Santa Ana, said he believes 20,000 immigrants living in the United States face similar problems bringing their children here.

Roughly a dozen individuals have filed separate lawsuits in California, New York, New Jersey and Ohio, immigration attorneys said. The complaints argue

that the 2002 law allows grown children to use the parents' date of application as a starting point.

The government disagrees and says the law only holds for grown children who were sponsored directly for green cards from the very beginning or for those listed on the application of a foreign parent who was sponsored by a legal resident spouse.

The government contends that Congress passed the law to help current U.S. citizens and residents reunite with their families, not to help future immigrants bring their families here.

The plaintiffs argue that the

law reads more broadly than that, and should include adult children whose parents had differing forms of sponsorship, including that by siblings.

The country's immigration appeals court recently ruled in favor of the government in a case in which a Chinese man immigrated in 2005 based on an application filed by his sister. The man tried to get a green card for his daughter, who had aged out, and sought to have her application marked with the initial 1992 filing date. But the court ruled the application was new and his daughter would have to wait.

## Mass. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy dies

**HYANNIS PORT, Mass. (AP)**—Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, the liberal lion of the Senate and haunted bearer of the Camelot torch after two of his brothers fell to assassins' bullets, died late Tuesday after battling a brain tumor. He was 77.

For nearly a half-century in the Senate, Kennedy was a steadfast champion of the working

class and the poor, a powerful voice on health care, civil rights, and war and peace. To the American public, though, he was best known as the last surviving son of America's most glamorous political family, the eulogist of a clan shattered again and again by tragedy.

His family announced his death in a brief statement released early

Wednesday.

"We've lost the irreplaceable center of our family and joyous light in our lives, but the inspiration of his faith, optimism, and perseverance will live on in our hearts forever," the statement said. "We thank everyone who gave him care and support over this last year, and everyone who stood with him for so many years in his tireless march for progress toward justice, fairness and opportunity for all."



### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Man convicted in '60 Coors slaying found dead

**DENVER (AP)**—A man convicted in the 1960 slaying of the Coors brewery founder's grandson, one of Colorado's most notorious cases, has died of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot. Chief Denver deputy coroner Michelle Weiss-Samaras said Tuesday that Joe Corbett, 80, was found dead Monday from a single shot to the head in his south Denver apartment, where he had lived for nearly 29 years. She said he had been diagnosed with cancer. Corbett, a convicted murderer who walked away from a California prison in 1955, was convicted of killing Adolph Coors III during a botched kidnapping attempt. He served 19 years in prison before being released in December 1980.

#### Prosecutor: Crime scene at Okla. church 'horrific'

**ANADARKO, Okla. (AP)**—The crime scene inside a small Pentecostal church where a pastor was slain was the most brutal he has seen in nearly 20 years as a prosecutor, the local district attorney said Tuesday. Police have released scant information about the killing of 61-year-old Carol Daniels, whose body was found Sunday inside the Christ Holy Sanctified Church, a weather-beaten building on a rundown block near downtown Anadarko. "I've prosecuted over 50 murders," District Attorney Bret Burns said. "This is the most horrific crime scene I've ever witnessed." He declined to elaborate, saying he did not want to jeopardize the investigation.

#### 3 dead in barn after standoff in northeast Tenn.

**MOORESBURG, Tenn. (AP)**—Authorities were investigating a possible murder-suicide on Tuesday after three people were found dead in a barn in rural northeastern Tennessee following a standoff with police. The bodies were found by officers around dawn after a 10-hour standoff that started Monday night. The deaths initially appeared to be a murder-suicide, said Kristin Helm, spokeswoman for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. District Attorney General Berkeley Bell Jr. told the Citizen Tribune newspaper in Morristown that those found dead were

Darran Blevins, his ex-stepfather, Dennis Christian, and Christian's live-in girlfriend, Brandy Seal. Both Blevins and Seal were in their 20s and Christian was in his 60s, Bell said.

#### 1 dead, 1 injured in north Texas awning collapse

**DALLAS (AP)**—A concrete-and-aluminum awning collapsed Tuesday outside a north Texas gym, killing a teenage girl and injuring another as they jogged past, authorities said. The awning fell outside the Club Barbell's Gym in Bridgeport. Bridgeport police spokeswoman Amber Fogelman told The Associated Press that Leslie Denison, a senior at Bridgeport High School, died after the heavy-duty metal awning fell from the side of a building about eight feet above the sidewalk. Fellow Bridgeport senior Rebekah Logan suffered severe facial lacerations in the accident, Fogelman said.

#### 2 dead in crash of ultra light plane in Indiana

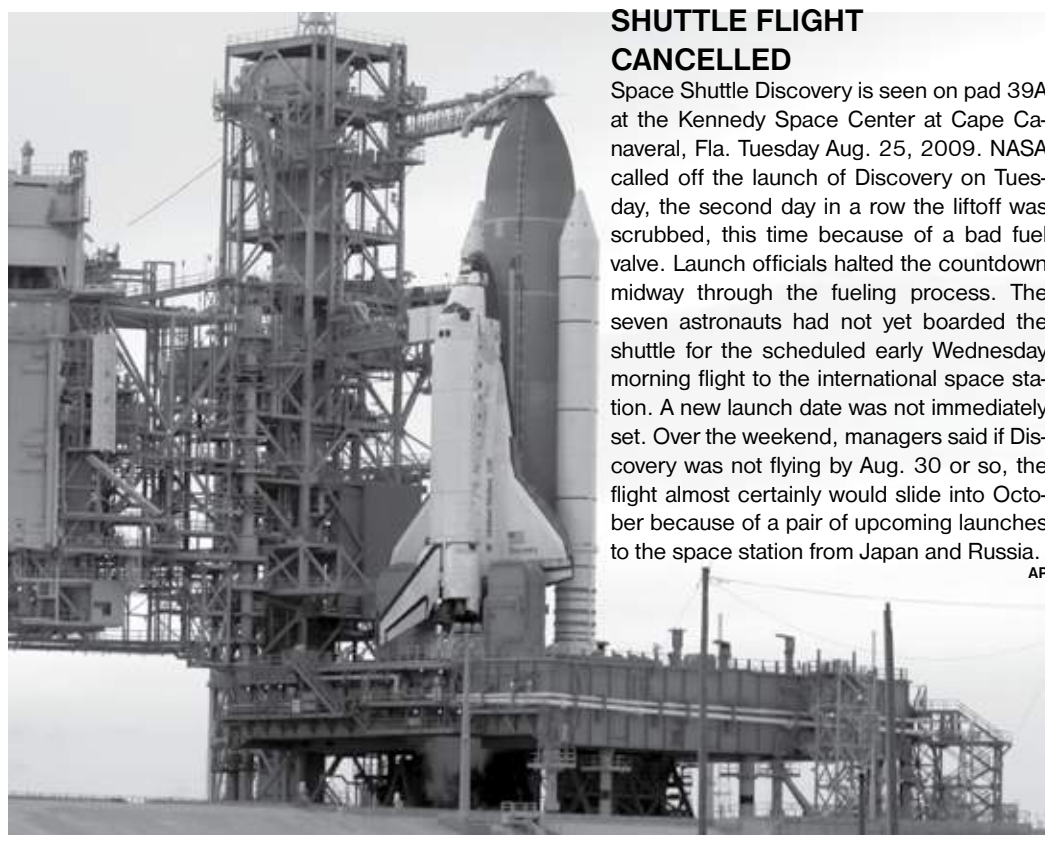
**SWITZ CITY, Ind. (AP)**—Indiana State Police say two men have died after the crash of an ultralight aircraft in southwest Indiana. Greene County Coroner Brian Gainey identifies the victims of Tuesday evening's crash as Dave Johnson of Linton and Mark Muzii of Bloomington. Their ages weren't available. Trooper Eric Russell says the plane crashed at 6:15 p.m. in a soybean field just south of the Shawnee Field grass airstrip in Greene County's Fairplay Township. Autopsies are scheduled for Wednesday morning at Regional Hospital in Terre Haute.

#### Former California officer arrested in robbery case

**SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP)**—A former Santa Rosa police officer has been arrested after police said he got away with more than \$400,000 in a series of armored car robberies. Robert Stephen Starling was arrested Monday on suspicion of armed robbery and other charges in connection with four armed robberies between April 2008 and May 2009 in Sonoma and Marin counties, said Santa Rosa police Sgt. Lisa Banayat. Starling, 35, worked as a Santa Rosa police officer in two separate stints between 2000 and 2006.

#### SHUTTLE FLIGHT CANCELLED

Space Shuttle Discovery is seen on pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Fla. Tuesday Aug. 25, 2009. NASA called off the launch of Discovery on Tuesday, the second day in a row the liftoff was scrubbed, this time because of a bad fuel valve. Launch officials halted the countdown midway through the fueling process. The seven astronauts had not yet boarded the shuttle for the scheduled early Wednesday morning flight to the international space station. A new launch date was not immediately set. Over the weekend, managers said if Discovery was not flying by Aug. 30 or so, the flight almost certainly would slide into October because of a pair of upcoming launches to the space station from Japan and Russia. **AP**



## SC retiree: \$260M Powerball prize won't change me

**COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)**—A retired South Carolina state employee who spent two bucks on the lottery was all smiles Tuesday as he claimed a \$260 million Powerball jackpot. "For once in my life, I really experienced the old saying, pinch me to see if I'm still alive, or if this is real," Solomon Jackson Jr. said.

South Carolina Education Lottery officials say the Powerball jackpot is the largest ever won with a ticket bought in the state, which has the nation's

fifth-highest unemployment rate. Powerball is played in 30 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Jackson, a lifelong Columbia resident, shared few details about himself or his plans for the money. He did say he is married and has 10 siblings, though he would not say how many children he has or give his age.

He also did not say whether he will take his winnings in yearly payments over three decades or in a \$129 million lump sum, which would work out to

about \$88 million after taxes.

He did reveal he had been an assistant supervisor for the state Revenue Department until taking early retirement in 2000 and using his free time to return to school to get a degree from Midlands Technical College.

"It is a beautiful day for education," Jackson said. "I said, 'Well, why can't I throw \$2 at the lottery, to help education?' Come to find out, I did not need \$2 to win, so I wasted a dollar. Thank God. Thank God. Thank God."



# Asia

## Car bomb blasts kill at least 41 in Afghanistan

**KANDAHAR, Afghanistan** (AP)—A cluster of vehicle bombs detonated simultaneously Tuesday in the Taliban's spiritual homeland near a foreign-owned construction company that had recently taken over a contract to build a road through an insurgent-held area. At least 41 people were killed, all civilians, officials said.

The thundering explosion occurred just after nightfall in a district that includes U.N. facilities and an Afghan intelligence office. The force of the blast shattered

windows around the city and sent flames shooting into the sky.

So many houses and nearby buildings had collapsed that officials feared the death toll could rise further. At least 66 people were wounded, said Gen. Ghulam Ali Wahabat, a police commander in charge of southern Afghanistan.

"There was big smoke in the sky, and there were many dead bodies," said Mohammad Ismail, a vegetable seller being treated at the hospital for leg and hand injuries from the blast. "Some of the wounded were crying out."

It appeared the main target was the Japanese company that is involved in reconstruction efforts in the southern Afghan city. The company recently took over a contract to build a road that insurgents had stalled for several months.

An intelligence office is about a quarter mile (400 meters) from the attack site and a U.N. office is located about a half mile (800 meters) away.

## Karzai, rival running about even in returns

**KABUL** (AP)—President Hamid Karzai and his main rival, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah, were running virtually even Tuesday in the first fragmented returns from last week's Afghan election, raising the possibility of a runoff that could drag the process out for months.

The figures came from 10 percent of the more than 27,000 polling sites nationwide—too small a sampling either to draw a conclusion about the outcome or silence criticism that the ballot was marred by fraud and

Taliban violence.

The U.S. and its NATO partners had hoped Thursday's election would produce a clear winner with a strong mandate to confront the growing Taliban insurgency, widespread corruption, narcotics and a stagnant economy.

Six other presidential candidates, echoing Abdullah's earlier claims, charged Tuesday that widespread fraud occurred on election day—mostly in Karzai's favor.

The allegations threaten to

discredit the eventual winner, stoke violence and cast doubt on the credibility of the Afghanistan democracy at a time when President Barack Obama and other Western leaders are considering investing more resources in an increasingly unpopular war.

Underscoring the crisis, a cluster of vehicle bombs detonated nearly simultaneously near a Japanese construction company in the southern city of Kandahar, killing at least 41 people, flattening buildings and sending flames shooting into the sky.

## RP terror group crippled by leader's capture

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—The recent capture of a Filipino terror suspect long sought by American and Philippine security officials has crippled his violent al-Qaida-linked group believed to be responsible for one of Southeast Asia's deadliest terror attacks, police said Tuesday.

Dinno-Amor Rosales Pareja, also known as Khalil Pareja, allegedly headed the Rajah Solaiman Movement—a group of Christian converts to Islam—that officials say was behind the 2004 Manila ferry bombing that

killed 116 people in the country's worst terror attack.

U.S. and Philippine authorities say the group is allied with two al-Qaida-linked organizations—the Southeast Asian militant network Jemaah Islamiyah and the Abu Sayyaf, a Muslim extremist group based in the southern Philippines.

Converts to Islam in this predominantly Roman Catholic country—who often hail from the north—are valuable because their familiarity with that region, which includes Manila,

could be exploited by southern-based Muslim separatist rebels for launching fresh attacks on the capital, police say. In contrast, many members of the Abu Sayyaf come from traditionally Muslim areas in the southern Philippines.

Police intelligence agents, backed by army troops, captured Pareja in southern Marawi city on Friday. Held without bail on rebellion charges, he was flown to Manila and photographed by reporters while being escorted to a detention center.

prisoners but that they are "definitely not a proper source for organ transplants."

### Myanmar lawyer: Detention now 'worse' for Suu Kyi

**YANGON, Myanmar** (AP)—The conditions of Myanmar democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi's detention have gotten "worse" since her conviction this month for violating terms of her previous house arrest, her lawyer said Tuesday. Myanmar's military government has not responded to Suu Kyi's request for a visit by her personal physician, said Nyan Win, her lawyer and spokesman for her National League for Democracy party. Nyan Win also said he and his colleagues have not yet been given permission to meet the Nobel Peace Prize laureate since they last met to consult on filing an appeal about a week after her Aug. 11 conviction.

### SKorea rocket takes off, satellite launch fails

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—South Korea's first rocket launch Tuesday failed to push a satellite into its orbit but the flawed mission may still anger rival North Korea, coming just months the communist nation's own launch drew international condemnation. The failure dealt a blow to Seoul's quest to become a regional space power. It comes against the complex backdrop of relations on the Korean peninsula—and recent signs that months of heightened tension over the North's nuclear program may be easing.

# World

## Top Iran reformist recants



In this photo released by the semi-official Iranian Fars News Agency, Iranian senior reformist Saeed Hajjarian, center, a former city councilor and a close aide to former reformist President Mohammad Khatami, is assisted to deliver his defence at the court room where he is among dozens of opposition activists and protesters in trial, at the Tehran's Revolutionary Court, Iran, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009.

**TEHRAN, Iran** (AP)—Saeed Hajjarian was a die-hard hero of Iran's reform movement, campaigning to reduce the power of the Islamic clerics even after being shot in the head in an assassination attempt that left him partially paralyzed.

On Tuesday, he was brought into a courtroom propped up by men who put him in the front row of defendants in Iran's biggest political trial in decades, where he proceeded

to renounce his entire career as a reformist.

His speech slurred and nearly unintelligible from the 2000 attack, Hajjarian had a statement read proclaiming that Iran's supreme leader represents the rule of God on Earth and asking for forgiveness for his "incorrect" ideas.

The stunning confession was among the most dramatic in the trial of more than 100 reform leaders and protesters arrested

in Iran's post-election crackdown—testimony the opposition says was coerced by threats and mistreatment during weeks of solitary confinement.

A procession of the biggest names in the reform movement has taken the stand during the past month, some looking thin and tired, all dressed in blue pajama-like prison uniforms and slippers. They have confessed to taking part in what the government says was a plot backed by foreign enemies to overthrow Iran's clerical leadership in a "velvet revolution."

The opposition has compared the proceedings to Josef Stalin's "show trials" against his opponents in the Soviet Union, saying the government is trying to wipe out the reform movement.

Hajjarian's turn in court perhaps more resembled a scene from China's Cultural Revolution, as he repented of the pro-reform ideology he has espoused for years.

In a statement read by a fellow defendant, he confessed to trying to spread "Marxist thought" that "has no relation to Iran." He said he had led astray his political party, the Islamic Iran Participation Front, with his ideas and announced his resignation from the party.

## US military deaths in Iraq at 4,335

As of Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009, at least 4,335 members of the U.S. military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

The figure includes nine military civilians killed in action. At least 3,466 mili-

tary personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The AP count is two fewer than the Defense Department's tally, last updated Tuesday at 10 a.m. EDT.

The British military has

reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each. (AP)

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Brown repulsed by Lockerbie bomber's Libya welcome

**LONDON** (AP)—British Prime Minister Gordon Brown broke his silence on the Lockerbie bomber Tuesday, saying he was repulsed by the hero's welcome Libya gave the convicted killer and insisting he played no role in Scotland's much-criticized decision to free him. Abdel Baset al-Megrahi, convicted of the 1988 airplane bombing that killed 270 people, was released from a Scottish prison last week on compassionate grounds because he is dying of cancer. He returned to his native country, where he was greeted by a crowd waving Libyan and Scottish flags and throwing flower petals. "I was both angry and I was repulsed by the reception of a convicted bomber guilty of a huge terrorist crime," Brown said.

#### Chavez: Venezuela ready to sever ties to Colombia

**CARACAS, Venezuela** (AP)—President Hugo Chavez said Tuesday that Venezuela is getting ready to break off diplomatic relations with Colombia over the neighboring country's plan to give American troops greater access to its military bases. Chavez said that "there's no possibility" of repairing relations with the government of President Alvaro Uribe and that he instructed his foreign minister to "begin preparing for the rupture with Colombia." "It's going to happen. Let's get ready," he said. Venezuela and Colombia have been feuding for weeks over the negotiations between Bogota and Washington that would allow the U.S. military to increase its presence at seven Colom-

bian bases through a 10-year lease agreement.

#### Diplomats: Iran's enrichment program stagnates

**VIENNA** (AP)—Iran's output of enriched uranium is stagnating even as its production capacity increases, a sign that Tehran may be running out of the ore needed to make nuclear fuel, diplomats said Tuesday. If so, it could mean that international sanctions to slow if not stop Iran's nuclear program are taking hold. The diplomats—who demanded anonymity because their information was confidential—emphasized the possibility that Iran was running short of uranium oxide was only one of several possible explanations for why it had not substantially upped its production of enriched uranium since May.

#### Israel PM seeks compromise with US on settlements

**LONDON** (AP)—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hopes to defuse an unusually public spat with the United States over West Bank settlements when he meets with a top U.S. envoy Wednesday morning. Netanyahu said Tuesday before his meeting with George Mitchell in London that he wants an agreement that allows Israel to proceed with some settlement construction while at the same time restarting peace talks with the Palestinians. But he also made clear he sees the spotlight on settlements as unfair and insisted the Mideast conflict is rooted in a deep Arab enmity to Israel that predates them.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Pakistani Taliban admit leader Mehsud killed

**DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan** (AP)—After weeks of denials, two Pakistani Taliban commanders acknowledged Tuesday that the group's top leader, Baitullah Mehsud, was dead—claiming he died 18 days after a U.S. missile strike and disputing reports that the al-Qaida linked movement he left behind was falling apart. Pakistani officials have said the Taliban were in disarray after Mehsud was killed in a CIA missile strike earlier this month and that his would-be successors were locked in a bitter power struggle. Some unconfirmed reports said two contenders—Hakimullah Mehsud and Waliur Rehman—had been killed in a shootout during a meeting to choose an heir.

#### Most China organ transplants come from death row

**BEIJING** (AP)—The majority of transplanted organs in China come from executed prisoners, state media reported Wednesday in a rare disclosure about the country's problem of dubious organ donations. Despite a 2007 regulation barring donations from people who are not related to or emotionally connected to the transplant patient, the China Daily newspaper said 65 percent of organ donations come from death row. It quoted Vice Health Minister Huang Jiefu as saying written consent is required from condemned



# Environment

## Summer of adventure

By CHRISTOPHER MATIAS  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Christopher Matias, 24, was a summer intern for Coastal Resources Management as an enforcement officer.

Hafa Adai! My name is Christopher Matias, I am 24 years old and currently attending Northern Marianas College, pursuing an associate degree in Business Management and Education. I am a summer intern for Coastal Resources Management as an enforcement officer. My primary mentor is Enforcement Officer II Agustin Pangelinan with the help of John San Nicolas, Jesse Borja, and Vicente Cabrera.

I found out about this summer internship through an ad posted on *Beach Road Magazine*. I then asked myself, is this job related to what I am currently majoring? Then, I came to my senses and I told myself that it doesn't need to be related to my major. I need to know what is going on with our lagoon and reefs. I need to know about the ocean that surrounds the CNMI and what we are protecting, why we are protecting it, and how we are protecting it. Basically, I want to try and understand what I need to know about our coastal resources and marine life, and disseminate what I learn to others. So I decided to waste no time and grab this opportunity to help protect our coastal and marine life on this beautiful island I call home.

As an enforcement officer my duties are to monitor our lagoon, reefs and certain terrestrial land areas. We are here to protect our coastal resources and marine life in the CNMI. We regulate and monitor unacceptable activities on our lagoon and reefs, and also areas of particular concern, as well as Managaha. We make sure that every policy is followed. We protect all sanctuary areas and educate others about protecting our environment.

During my internship, I experienced a lot of new and extraordinary things. I worked with people who are dexterous with the things that they do. I learned a lot of rules and regulations for our coastal and marine life. I've experienced stake outs dealing with shobai (solicitation), vehicles driving on the beach, littering, illegal launching of boat from certain areas, refueling gas on the ocean, oil spills, terrestrial projects with no permit, etc. The biggest concern for enforcement, one that I

have experienced, is the concern for our tourist. We have received complaints from tourists of harassment with multiple reasons. We did various stakeouts and caught people in the act. We usually gave them citations, but also had to make a call of arrest at times. We are here to protect our tourist especially in times like this, because they are a big impact to our island and our economy.

Aside from enforcement, I was also given a chance to work with CRM's Marine Monitoring Team and collaborated with DEQ's monitoring team on reef flat surveys. We conducted surveys on the marine life in certain beaches that were randomly selected. We collected data on sea cucumbers, seaweeds, corals, etc. All this data will be recorded for future reference. During my internship, I surveyed Kilili Beach, Coral Ocean Point, Bird Island, and Marianas Resort Beach. The last beach I helped survey was Forbidden Island.

This summer, I've visited Managaha several times doing various projects, but the most interesting project I've got to do was the Managaha Beach Profile Survey. Many people believe Managaha is shrinking and that in the future it will disappear. That's why CRM conducted a survey to monitor Managaha. The survey is basically getting measurements from different sites of Managaha which is conducted every year on a quarterly basis. From our data, it is proven that Managaha is not eroding, but it has been shifting during the past years.

All the interns participated in a Pacific Environmental Conference that was held at World Resort. This event took place at the beginning of our internship. This conference included people from various places like Hawaii, Palau, Pohnpei, Guam, American Samoa, United States and the CNMI. The conference was about saving our environment. These people shared information on how we can protect the environment, shared new ideas and technology that is earth-friendly. Basically, change the world for a better future. We all know that we are reaching the time of global warming, and the time just keeps on

ticking. But if we all work together, and we all start caring for our planet Earth, we can stop the time from ticking and save everyone from global warming.

This internship was special for some of us. Five of us were given an opportunity to participate in a underwater archeology training. This event was new to us because we knew nothing about shipwrecks; only that we knew there might be treasures if we find one. They explained that underwater archeologist is definitely not treasure hunting; in fact they dislike treasure hunters because they ruin a lot of shipwrecks in the world. Our training is about finding shipwrecks, collecting data as much as possible, and putting it on the map for future reference and also to build our tourism. We were divided into two teams, the underwater team and the terrestrial team, which I was in. We did a shipwreck on Smiling Cove near the bridge located at American Memorial Park, which happens to be an old Japanese fishing boat and the other team did theirs on 13 Fishermen. All these data will be kept and will also be used for future diving and tourist sites. In the end of our training, we were certified by the Flinders University that we completed a course of underwater archeology training.

This summer internship has been an adventure for me. Although we had limited time, I experienced so much and learned a lot. I got to appreciate our marine life and the lagoon that surrounds us. I gained the knowledge to the questions that I had when I first started. What are we protecting? Why are we protecting it? Who is protecting it? How are we protecting it? But aside from my questions, I learned so much about our coastal and marine life. I am grateful to be a part in protecting the CNMI. Now that my internship will be done, I will still continue to help protect our environment and coastal resources by educating families and colleagues. We all need to step up and play a role in protecting the CNMI. This is for a healthy and better future for our island that we call home.

## CNMI to join worldwide coastal cleanup

Hundreds of volunteers throughout the CNMI are expected to clean their beaches next month as part of the world's largest volunteer cleanup effort.

The 24th annual International Coastal Cleanup is on Sept. 19, Saturday, from 8am to 12pm. Everyone is invited to participate. Saipan and Tinian are scheduled to participate on Sept. 19, and Rota's event is on Friday, Sept. 18.

On Saipan, a number of groups have already adopted beaches, including South Lao Lao and Cow Town, according to the Division of Environmental Quality. However, dozens of other beaches still need volunteers.

Several groups are working together to coordinate events on Saipan and Tinian, and the Coastal Resources Management Office is taking the lead on Rota.

The International Coastal Cleanup is the world's largest volunteer effort to help protect the ocean, according to the Ocean Conservancy, a nonprofit organization dedicated solely to protecting ocean environments and marine life.

Last year, nearly 400,000 volun-

teers hit their local beaches, lakes, and rivers with a common mission of improving the health of the ocean and waterways. On one day, they removed and tallied 6.8 million pounds of debris, from 6,485 sites in 100 coun-

tries and 42 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

The DEQ will retrieve and properly dispose of the trash collected from the cleanup on Saipan.

Cleanup supplies—garbage bags and gloves which were purchased with funds from a generous Bridge Capital donation—will be available at DEQ the week before the cleanup.

Interested participants are encouraged to sign up for the event so that organizers may arrange for proper pick up and disposal of garbage.

To request a signup sheet for Saipan or Tinian, contact Lisa Huynh Eller, Olivia Tebuteb or Carlos Ketebebang, DEQ, at 664-8500 or email—[lisaeller@deq.gov.mp](mailto:lisaeller@deq.gov.mp).

For information about Rota's event, contact William T. Pendergrass, ICC Coordinator, or MJ Taisacan, CRMO Administrative Clerk, at 532-0466 or fax 532-1000. (PR)

### CONTACT INFO

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## Brabu Pharmacy advocates recycling

With a vision of supporting healthy living and a healthy environment, the Brabu Pharmacy and Wellness Center in Gualo Rai opened its doors this summer. In addition to providing a wide range of health products for people and pets, the business is also dedicated to supporting the government's recycling efforts.

"Presently we recycle our cans, glass,

and paper. We also store our reusable packing materials and cardboard boxes, and have a limited supply of reusable styrofoam coolers, and ice packs," said Ted Parker, Brabu co-owner. "People are invited to call-in or stop by to pick up any of these materials that they can reuse. It's our way of thinking globally and acting locally." (PR)



The staff of Brabu Pharmacy and Wellness Center pose in front of the store in Gualo Rai.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# Life & Style

**Y**ou can see almost anything in the world if you pay enough. So I was startled when a well-respected trekking company in northern Thailand refused my request to travel to a nearby village of a tribe called the Padaung.

"PLEASE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS!" the company wrote me in an e-mail.

Nothing is simple when it comes to the Padaung.

The Padaung, commonly known as the long-necked women, are refugees from Myanmar (also known as Burma) who are famous for their giraffelike appearance, which is caused by brass rings coiled around their necks. Although it looks like the coils thrust their necks upward, the elongation is actually caused by the weight of the rings crushing their collarbones down. Ever since I glimpsed the Padaung as a child in my grandfather's National Geographic, I had wanted to see these curious women, who suffer painful disfigurement to emerge as graceful beauties.

But I had not known about the raging debate over the ethics of visiting this tribe.

Some trekking companies and human rights groups consider the Padaung villages, which stretch across northern Thailand, to be "human zoos" that exploit the women. There have even been reports that some of the Padaung are prisoners held captive in the villages by businessmen.

"Disgraceful stuff!" Annette Kuniagon, the owner of Eagle House Eco-sensitive Tours, wrote me in an e-mail. "We have been running culturally and environmentally friendly treks for 22 years and have never run treks to visit this tribal group as we would consider this exploitation as they have no rights. It is an easy trip to 'make' money out of, but this is not our interest!"

Were tourists really being taken to see virtual prisoners? And if so, would my visit encourage slavery by paying money to human traffickers? Or would I be able to sound the alarm if I saw real human rights violations? I ultimately concluded that if the villages really were so deplorable, my ability to write about them might ultimately help the Padaung more than harm them. I decided to go.

Almost any traveler who has ventured into nature or the developing world has to grapple with such moral dilemmas. Some people think it is cruel to swim with dolphins, because it forces the animals to be kept in captivity. Others refuse to visit authoritarian countries such as Zimbabwe, fearful that their tourist dollars will help prop up repressive regimes. And almost anyone wanting to catch a glimpse of an indigenous culture—in the rain forests of Ecuador or the yurts of Mongolia—has to be aware that the very presence of a foreigner likely alters and distorts typical native behavior.

But my entire trek through northern Thailand presented an unusually rapid succession of ethically ambiguous views of traditional culture and, in some cases, traditions continued perhaps solely for the sake of tourist dollars.

I was in the middle of a month-long grand tour of Southeast Asia and had set aside time for a two-day trek to see the Padaung and other hill-tribe villages



Tourists photograph a Padaung woman and girl in the Chiang Dao village north of Chiang Mai in northern Thailand. The coils they wear seem to elongate their necks but actually crush their collarbones down. Some tour operators refuse to take tourists to such sites, saying the villages exploit their residents.

THE WASHINGTON POST

## Seeing long-necked women: Tradition vs exploitation in Thai villages

By AMIT R. PALEY

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near Chiang Mai, the second-largest city in Thailand. After several weeks of being rebuffed, I eventually found a Chiang Mai company that would take me on a two-day trek to see the Padaung and four other hill tribes; the trip also included a journey on an elephant, a bamboo rafting excursion and an overnight stay in a village.

So that's how I found myself on a 90-degree day last month on the outskirts of a jungle in Chiang Dao, about 30 miles south of the Myanmar-Thailand border. There was lush vegetation and fields of corn as far as the eye could see. After plowing through dense brush we arrived at our first village: the home of the Karen tribe, which is also originally from Burma.

What exotic sights did we see? Several women in T-shirts and shorts cutting thin strips of wood to make baskets. "They don't like to wear their costumes," my guide, Jakrapan Saengpayom, told me.

We next headed to see a village of the Lisu, a tribe originally from Tibet that wears heavy, multicolored fabrics, and then the Akha, a tribe whose origins are traced to Mongolia and famed for their headwear of silver jewelry. Several villagers there wore traditional costumes, but most did not.

It was only when we arrived late that afternoon at a Palaung village that we saw women wearing traditional garb, including dozens of rattan rings that



BY LARIS KARLIS — THE WASHINGTON POST

The author went on a two-day trek to see the Padaung long-necked women and four other hill tribes near Chiang Mai, the second-largest city in Thailand. The Padaung are refugees from Myanmar (also known as Burma).

circle their waists. (Elaborate get-ups or anatomical distortions seem to be required for women; the men wear essentially Thai clothes.)

Nae Naheng, 52, the matriarch of the family in whose house I spent the night,

said the Palaung believe that women used to be angels in the past world, and that male hunters used rattan rings to catch them and bring them to Earth. Women are never supposed to remove the rings. Naheng said she only briefly takes off the rings in the shower.

"Once I took them off when I was young, and I felt sick and very sad," she said. "If you do not wear the rings, your soul will get ill and you can die." But one member of the 300-person village does not feel that way. Joy Thaijun, 28, was wearing shorts and a T-shirt when I saw her. This annoyed my guide, who said that if the villagers stop wearing traditional costumes, tourists will stop coming to visit them.

"She is a lazy Palaung!" he said jokingly to her.

Embarrassed, Thaijun put on her costume and immediately tried to sell me some trinkets and handicrafts. After politely refusing, I asked her why she did not wear the costume.

"I am part of a new generation, and I do not like it. It is hot and uncomfortable," she said. But she noted that she might have to because the chief is considering forcing everyone to wear the costume. "If the chief orders us, we will do it." The chief of the village, a 52-year-old named Nanta Asung, told me that Thaijun was the only woman in the village who did not wear traditional dress and that her choice was unacceptable. "If you are Palaung, you have to

wear the costume of the Palaung," he said while chopping pork for dinner. "This is a must. A must!"

Asung said they must wear the dress because of tradition, but he also spoke excitedly about its appeal to tourists and noted that half of the village's income of \$30,000 a year comes from tourism. That night an Australian family was paying \$15 to sleep in his hut. "He is very worried that visitors will stop coming," my guide, who served as my interpreter, told me as we left and headed to our own hut.

As we walked across the village, Asung began broadcasting over loudspeakers: "This is a reminder that all women should wear traditional dress. Some foreigners just came to complain that some women were not wearing their costumes." (We returned to explain to the tribal chief that I was asking questions, not complaining; he did not issue a correction over the village intercom.)

After a dinner of chicken curry, raw pork and a jungle delicacy identified as minced mole, I asked our hostess if she felt forced to wear the costume because of visiting foreigners.

"I don't care about tourists," Naheng said. "This is our culture. Even if no tourists came, I would still wear it."

The next morning I scrambled up on an elephant for an hour-long ride that left me sore all over and a hour-long trip down the Ping River on a bamboo raft held together by strips of rubber tire.

Eventually we arrived at our main destination, the village of the long-necked women. It was off a dirt road, and a man at a booth in the front charged us 300 Thai baht (about \$9) a person to enter.

It didn't look like a village at all. We were ushered into a 50-square-yard collection of shacks where two dozen Padaung women sat and sewed or tried to sell their wares. There were no men in sight and only a handful of tourists during my two-hour visit.

The women were as breathtaking as I imagined. Their heads seem to float ethereally over their bodies. In person they looked less like giraffes than swans, regal and elegant.

But, of course, this was done by crushing and deforming their bodies. Did the Padaung women want to wear those enormous coils?

"We're not allowed to take it off because of our tradition," said Malao, a 33-year-old who, like most Padaung women, has only one name. She takes off the rings once a year to clean the brass and her neck, but that's it. "If I take it off for a long time, it is uncomfortable. My head aches, and I feel like my neck can't support my head."

Young girls typically start wearing about 3 1/2 pounds of brass coil around their necks and keep adding weight until they have more than 11 pounds. They also wear coils on their legs.

The women said the rings were painful when they were young but don't hurt now at all, and they said there are no health problems associated with wearing them. None of the Padaung I spoke to knew of any story or reason for wearing the rings. It was just a tradition, they said. (Other sources say the origin of the tradition is a Padaung legend that the rings protected children from being killed by tigers, which tend to attack at the neck.)

See SEEING on next page



**SEEING**

From Page 18

"Why do we wear the rings?" said Mamombee, 52, whose neck seemed particularly elongated. "We do it to put on a show for the foreigners and tourists!" I couldn't tell if she was joking.

But Mamombee said she doesn't like to remove them except once every three years to clean herself. "I feel bad when I take out the rings," she said. "I look and feel ugly."

There were no guards around, and it did not look to me as if anyone would physically stop the women from leaving. When I asked how they had arrived at this village, they said a man named U Dee, whom they referred to as "the middleman," first began bringing Padaung to the spot about three years ago. There are now about 50 families there, including some from a tribe known as "the long ears" because they stretch their lower earlobes by wearing enormous rings.

Some families said they were paid about \$45 a month; others were given a sack of rice. One orphan girl said she was not paid at all. All the women and girls tried to raise extra money by selling trinkets or charging money to be photographed.

The women are not allowed to leave the one-acre village. Groceries and other supplies are brought in by motorcycle every day. "We have to stay with the middleman," Mamombee said. "If I leave, he might call immigration." Does she want to escape? "I have no choice. If we leave, we will be arrested," she said. Their only option is to stay or pay U Dee money to be returned to Myanmar. But after pausing, she added: "I would much rather be here than in Burma." Myanmar is an authoritarian state led by a military junta and among the poorest countries in the world. None of the Padaung I spoke with wished to return there, but several expressed a desire for more freedom of movement.

"I want to go out and see things, see the market, see the people," said Maya, 11, who escaped from Myanmar three years ago. "But I cannot." U Dee could not be reached for comment and did not respond to a message left for him at the village. But Helen "Lee" Jayu, a Lisu shopkeeper from the same tribe as U Dee, said that all the Padaung are in Thailand under U Dee's patronage and that there are no problems as long as no one leaves the area.

So is it unethical to visit the long-necked women? It is clearly true that money spent to visit them supports an artificial village from which they essentially cannot leave. On the other hand, many of them appeared to prefer living in virtual confinement as long as they are paid and safe. According to what they told me, their situation beats the alternative of living in a repressive country plagued by abject poverty and hunger.

I don't feel guilty about visiting the Padaung, but my feelings might be different if I had traveled solely as a tourist rather than as a journalist. And I certainly don't like their lot in life: Shouldn't everyone have the freedom to live and travel wherever they want?

The final stop on the visit was an orchid and butterfly farm outside Chiang Dao. The delicate, multicolored creatures would occasionally launch into the air, flying up, up, up until they hit the mesh cages of the farm. Then the butterflies would flutter down to one of the artificial stands and spread their wings. I watched as tourists gaped and snapped pictures of their natural beauty.

# Chris Brown sentenced in Rihanna assault case

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A judge on Tuesday sentenced Chris Brown to five years' probation, six months' community labor for the beating of Rihanna and ordered the R&B singer to stay away from his former girlfriend for the next five years.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Patricia Schnegg told Brown that he could be sent to state prison if he violated any terms of his sentence, including an order to stay 100 yards away from Rihanna unless they're attending music industry events.

Brown will serve his sentence in his home state—Virginia—and his community labor will be overseen by the police chief in Richmond.

The judge said she wanted to ensure that Brown, 20, performs physical labor instead of community service, such as mentoring young people. He will also undergo a year of domestic violence counseling.

Rihanna did not attend Tuesday's sentencing.

At one point, Brown, who was accompanied by his mother, agreed to the terms of the sentence before Schnegg had finished going through them all.

The hearing had been planned for Thursday afternoon, but Brown's lawyer, Mark Geragos, asked to move up the singer's sentencing to Tuesday. A previous attempt to sentence Brown was postponed when Schnegg said she hadn't received adequate assurances that Brown would perform physical labor if allowed to serve probation in Virginia.

The judge said she was satisfied with a letter presented by Geragos that Richmond Police Chief Bryan



Chris Brown, left, stands alongside attorney Mark Geragos at his sentencing for assaulting girlfriend Rihanna, at Los Angeles County Superior Court in Los Angeles, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009.

T. Norwood will directly oversee Brown's labor program.

After Brown pleaded guilty to felony assault in June, Schnegg ordered the pair to stay away from each other and to not contact one another. Her order

Tuesday essentially extended that for the next five years.

Donald Etra, Rihanna's attorney, has said he didn't think the strict rules were necessary, but that he and Rihanna favored a less-stringent ruling that

simply ordered Brown not to annoy, harass or molest the 21-year-old pop singer. He said after Tuesday's hearing that Rihanna did not object to the stay-away order, which allows the former couple to be within 10 yards of each other if they are attending music industry events.

Otherwise, Brown was ordered to remain 100 yards away from Rihanna.

Schnegg said she was aware of reports that Brown had been spotted on several occasions in the same places as Rihanna.

"I am not amused with the chatter that has been on the airwaves and any violation of your probation in this case comes with the potential for state prison," Schnegg told Brown.

Brown was arrested Feb. 8, hours after he was accused of beating Rihanna.

The attack occurred in Los Angeles' Hancock Park neighborhood as Brown drove a rented sports car. A Los Angeles police detective described a brutal attack in a search warrant affidavit filed in the case, stating Brown hit, choked and bit Rihanna and tried at one point to push her from the car.

Brown's career suffered after his arrest, with sponsors dropping him and radio stations refusing to play his music. Both he and Rihanna had to cancel several high-profile appearances, including planned performances at the Grammy Awards the day of the attack.

In a probation report released after the sentencing, Brown is quoted as saying he was "depressed" since the attack and that he "does not want to carry on that cycle."

A felony charge of making criminal threats was dropped during Tuesday's sentencing.

## Q&A: After '300,' Gerard Butler is still battling

By **JAKE COYLE**  
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

**NEW YORK (AP)**—In the new action film, "Gamer," video games have conjoined with reality, and gamers can control the lives of real people from the comfort of their couches. It can sound a little like today's Hollywood: teenage boys rule the world.

The star of "Gamer," Gerard Butler, has seen his star rise thanks to that very demographic, who have cheered him in "300," Guy Ritchie's "RocknRolla" and the 2001 TV series, "Attila," his early breakthrough.

But the Scottish actor has proven just as appealing to women. He's been labeled a full-fledged sex symbol after performances in the 2007 romance "P.S. I Love You" and this summer's romantic comedy "The Ugly Truth."

In a Hollywood increasingly bereft of stars, the charismatic Butler has been pegged as an ascendant A-lister. It's an unlikely fate for the 39-year-old, who was once days away from becoming a lawyer. Dragged down by too much partying, he was fired and immediately reconsidered his life and career.

This fall, he'll co-star with Jamie Foxx in "Law Abiding Citizen," the first film Butler has produced. He's also recently been filming "The Bounty" with Jennifer Aniston in New York, where he lives most of the time.

■ ■ ■ ■

**AP: What's the last year or so been like, as fame has come quickly?**

**BUTLER:** It's been a mixture of learning to adjust to slightly different realities in terms of your career, how you're viewed by the industry and the public and in terms of how you're viewed when you walk down the bloody street. It's been a mixture of coming to terms with that and then relaxing into it and really enjoying it.

**AP: It appears that you wear fame well. You've artfully denied tabloid rumors about you and Aniston with sarcasm.**

**BUTLER:** That got me into trouble once in Britain when they were asking me about James Bond. I was so sick about being asked about James Bond—it was before Daniel Craig had taken the role. They said, "So is it true about Bond?" And I said, "Yeah, I'm in talks with (producer) Barbara Broccoli. I told her that if (British politician) Ann Widdecombe can be my Bond girl, then I'll do it." Now, Ann Widdecombe was at that time mid-70s, hugely overweight, very little hair. Thought it was funny but the next day in the Scottish papers—they took one part of it and said: "Gerald Butler is going to be the next James Bond." That's when you think, "Should I just lose my sense of humor completely?"

**AP: Have you seen a change in the scripts you're offered?**

**BUTLER:** What I notice is the scripts have become, one, of a far higher quality, and, two, more diverse. It's not all action, it's not all comedy, it's not all romantic comedy. I'm get-



Scottish actor Gerard Butler poses at the Regency Hotel in New York, Saturday, Aug. 22, 2009.

ting all sorts of scripts from heavy dramas to maybe a black comedy to even a musical.

**AP: Have you admired the arc of anyone's career in particular?**

**BUTLER:** Paul Newman, Steve McQueen could do a drama with a really cool edge to it, but then also do comedy. ... The kind of career trajectory that I've had, a more modern example, would be a Mel Gibson.

**AP: Movies like "300" and "Gamer" tout a violent vision of tough-guy masculinity not seen in many films these days. Is that a subject you're drawn to?**

**BUTLER:** I am very much a man and I naturally bring a masculinity to those roles. Mike Chadway in "The Ugly Truth," for example, could have been played in many different ways. ... But I also think I'm attracted to roles where guys get to talk about the mythical struggle of guys and what it is to be a man.

**AP: You've also become a sex symbol, a role you've made light of but acknowledged is mostly to the good.**

**BUTLER:** I joke with that because it's way better to be appreciated than to not be appreciated. For anybody to blow it off and dismiss it, they're either insane or they're just not being honest or they're being extremely arrogant. ... As you're saying that, my natural response is going to be, "Well, I don't really see it." But then again, I do—just on the street sometimes.

**AP: It's probably about then that you wish you had become a lawyer.**

**BUTLER:** Yep, I have nightmares about that every day! Why aren't I still doing the law? (Laughs.)

**AP: You came so close. That must have been a dramatic turning point.**

**BUTLER:** The most incredible turning point. I'm not exaggerating when I say seven days from qualifying after seven years of my life and I was let go. I couldn't deny any more that I had issues in how I was living my life. But I also was in many ways set free from what did feel like a prison sentence for what my soul was. Obviously, I was meant to be here.



# R&B singer LeToya ready for round 2 as solo star

**NEW YORK (AP)**—After proving she could do it solo—her debut single and self-titled album both hit No. 1 on the charts three years ago—LeToya is ready for people to call her by her own name, without adding that annoying prefix.

"I am now formerly the former member of Destiny's Child," the 28-year-old says with a laugh. "We are now LeToya Luckett, that's what we've been and that's what we will continue to say."

The Houston native will get a chance to show other sides of LeToya with her upcoming acting gigs: She stars in the movie "Preacher's Kid," due out this October, and has a role in 2010's "Five Killers" with Ashton Kutcher and Katherine Heigl.

But before she heads to the big screen, LeToya is releasing her sophomore disc, "Lady



Recording artist LeToya Luckett poses for a portrait Friday, July 31, 2009 in New York.

AP

(laughs). I am so opposite of violent; lover not a fighter, for real. But I did that record because I know a lot of people would be able to relate to that. If you've been in the situation and you've done everything you can, everything humanly possible to make it work, and this person just can't get it together. And they have the nerve to go out and cheat and think this person that they've known for 10 minutes is going to be able to make things better and you're at that boiling point and it's like, "Oh, I wanna hit you with something!"

**AP: There seems to be a lot of breakup songs on the CD. How'd those records come together?**

**LeToya:** I've been single for a while now, and of course girls, we have our girl talks and we talk about each other's crazy experiences in these relationships and so it makes it easy for me to write about my experiences, their experiences.

**AP: Do you feel like you've officially ventured away from your Destiny's Child past?**

**LeToya:** I feel that way now, yes. I think that people are now starting to see who I am as an artist and get to know LeToya Luckett and not so much put all the focus on "former member of." You know what I mean?

**AP: Do you keep in touch with the other ladies from the group?**

**LeToya:** When we see each other it's very cordial.

**AP: How have you grown since being in the group?**

**LeToya:** I'm not afraid to take chances. I don't play it safe as much as I used to. I think when you're so used to being on a team, any team, whether you be an athlete or in a singing group, you have to be a team player, and I'm still a team player, but when you step out on your own, it's all about you. The focus is just on you, those eyes are just on you. So I think I'm accepting that now and it's helping me to grow as a person.

**AP: You're starring in "Preacher's Kid"—how was that experience?**

**LeToya:** I learned a lot about myself in filming that movie. I never saw myself doing that, I've always seen myself getting into acting, but being able to cry on the spot—I found myself getting so much into the character that I would take on some of her stress, her pressures, everything that she felt. I'd go straight home with it. And everybody was like, "You got to leave that on the set." But how? It's so deep.

**AP: You're doing music, films, fashion (she has two boutiques in Houston)—what else do you want to do?**

**LeToya:** One day have a family, kids. That would be nice (laughs). Got to find that special someone first and marry him and then we'll talk about some kids. Hopefully that's next.

Love," out this week.

The CD—which features production and guest vocals from Ne-Yo, Estelle, Ryan Leslie and Ludacris—has a range of breakup songs like "Lazy," a tune about being too tired to try love after a failed relationship, and the uptempo "She Ain't Got," where LeToya's so fed up she is ready to beat "the other woman" with a bat.

**The Associated Press: Would you really hit someone with a bat?**

**LeToya:** No. I wouldn't. I've never had a fight in my life

## 'Accused Miley Cyrus stalker a danger'

**TYBEE ISLAND, Ga. (AP)**—A man charged with trying to stalk teen star Miley Cyrus told an investigator he planned on returning to her Georgia movie set and "finishing things," her security guard told a judge Tuesday.

Municipal Court Judge Steven Scheer refused a request to lower Mark McLeod's \$55,200 bond and ruled there was sufficient evidence to send the case to Chatham County State Court.

Scheer said he felt McLeod, 53, had no chance of getting to the 16-year-old "Hannah Montana" star because she "can afford

the best protection money can buy," but he feared McLeod might be a threat to others.

Cyrus recently finished filming "The Last Song" on Tybee Island and in neighboring Savannah. Police say McLeod came to the island twice, once in June, then again this month asking where he could find her.

Robert Merriman, a former Savannah-Chatham County police detective hired by Walt Disney Pictures to protect Cyrus, testified that McLeod made a taped statement to a sheriff's investigator in Columbia County, where he was arrested at his home Aug. 4.

## Paisley, Underwood to host CMA Awards

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)**—Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood will return as co-hosts of the Country Music Association Awards in Nashville this fall.

The CMA said Tuesday that both singers possess the humor and timing needed to host the three-hour show, which airs live on ABC Nov. 11.

The pair, two of country's most popular young stars, hosted for the first time last year.

"We didn't know what to expect the first time. We had no idea," Underwood said. "Things are different from year to year, but the overall layout—we've got it down."

The host slot has been something of a revolving door since the affable Vince Gill ended a 12-

year run in 2003. Brooks & Dunn hosted from 2004-2006, and in 2007 the CMA experimented with no host as multiple artists presided over different segments.

Seated beside each other, Paisley and Underwood said they wrapped up last year's show hoping to be invited back.

"We trust our instincts a little more now," Paisley said. "When they ask you to host and you've never done it before, it could be really bad. We all know of situations in various awards shows where that hosting thing didn't work very well."

"We've all sat through crickets," Underwood added. "Someone said something that was supposed to be a joke, and it's like, 'What are they talking about?'"

## Jackie half brother indicted on child porn charges

**PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)**—Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis' half brother, who as a boy carried her wedding train up the aisle but later became estranged from her, has been indicted on felony charges of possessing child pornography in Oregon.

James Auchincloss was indicted Tuesday by a Jackson County grand jury in Medford on 25 counts of encouraging child sexual abuse resulting from the alleged duplication and possession of child pornography.

Auchincloss, 62, did not immediately return messages left on his home phone and cell phone. His attorney, Carl Caplan of Medford, also did not return phone messages.

Deputy District Attorney David Hoppe said a plea bargain is typical for the charges against Auchincloss and that he likely would remain free pending resolution of the case. Hoppe noted that Auchincloss is not charged with any production, sale or distribution of child pornography—only possession and duplication—meaning that he may not have to serve any jail time if convicted.

"For someone who has no criminal history, such as Mr. Auchincloss, it's possible that probation is available to them," Hoppe said.

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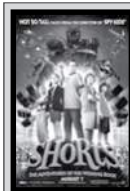
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### Shorts

Friday	4:10	7:15	9:55
Saturday	1:05	4:10	7:15
Sunday	1:05	4:10	7:15
Mon. thru Thurs.	4:10	7:15	

**Jimmy Bennett, Jake Short**  
 Children • Rated PG

### Synopsis

Eleven-year-old Toe Thompson is the designated punching bag for the bullies of the suburban community of Black Falls, where his and everyone else's parents work for Black Box Industries, makers of the do-it-all gadget that's sweeping the nation. But during a freak storm, a mysterious Rainbow Rock, which grants wishes to anyone who finds it, falls from the sky. Suddenly, the neighborhood that Toe already thinks is weird is about to get a lot weirder.



### Inglourious Basterds

Friday	4:00	7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon. thru Thurs.	4:00	7:00	

**Brad Pitt, Diane Kruger**  
 Political • Rated R

### Synopsis

In the first year of the German occupation of France, Shosanna Dreyfus witnesses the execution of her family at the hand of Nazi Colonel Hans Landa. Shosanna narrowly escapes and flees to Paris where she forges a new identity as the owner and operator of a cinema. Elsewhere in Europe, Lieutenant Aldo Raine organizes a group of Jewish American soldiers to perform swift, shocking acts of retribution. Later known to their enemy as "the basterds," Raine's squad joins German actress and undercover agent Bridget von Hammersmark on a mission to take down the leaders of the Third Reich.



### District 9

Friday	4:05	7:10	9:50
Saturday	1:10	4:05	7:10
Sunday	1:10	4:05	7:10
Mon. thru Thurs.	4:05	7:10	

**Sharito Copley, Jason Cope**  
 Sci-Fi • Rated R

### Synopsis

Thirty years ago, aliens made first contact with Earth. Humans waited for the hostile attack, or the giant advances in technology. Neither came. Instead, the aliens were refugees, the last survivors of their home world. The creatures were set up in a makeshift home in South Africa's District 9 as the world's nations argued over what to do with them. Now, patience over the alien situation has run out. Control over the aliens has been contracted out to Multi-National United, a private company uninterested in the aliens' welfare — they will receive tremendous profits if they can make the aliens' awesome weaponry work.



### The Time Traveler's Wife

Friday	4:20	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:25	4:20	7:05
Sunday	1:25	4:20	7:05
Mon. thru Thurs.	4:20	7:05	

**Rachel McAdams, Eric Bana**  
 Drama, Romance, Sci-Fi • Rated PG 13



### G.I. JOE

Friday	4:30	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:20	4:30	7:25
Sunday	1:20	4:30	7:25
Mon. thru Thurs.	4:30	7:25	

**Dennis Quaid, Channing Tatum**  
 War • Rated PG 13



### G-Force

Friday	4:15	7:30	9:45
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:30
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:30
Mon. thru Thurs.	4:15	7:30	

**Nicolas Cage, Steve Buscemi**  
 Action, Animated • Rated PG



### Aliens in the Attic

Friday	4:25	7:20	9:30
Saturday	1:30	4:25	7:20
Sunday	1:30	4:25	7:20
Mon. thru Thurs.	4:25	7:20	

**Thomas Haden Church, Carter Jenkins**  
 Adventure, Family • Rated PG

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# Billboard names Beyonce as 'Woman of the Year'

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The year's not even over, but Billboard already knows who its woman of the year is—Beyonce (Bee-AHN'-say).

The superstar will be honored by the industry publication at its annual Women in Music event.

Past "Woman of the Year" honorees were Ciara (SEE-eh-

ah) and Reba McEntire.

Beyonce will be on hand to accept her award at the Oct. 2 event in New York City. It's been yet another big year for the entertainer. She had the smash hit "Single Ladies," sang at President Obama's inauguration, had a No. 1 movie with "Obsessed" and embarked on an arena tour.



Beyonce Knowles poses for pictures at a press conference where she announced her partnership with General Mills' Hamburger Helper with the goal of helping the organization Feeding America deliver meals to local food banks in New York.

## 'One Tree Hill' actor still on TV after NYC plea

**NEW YORK (AP)**—An actor who pleaded guilty in New York City to a Social Security number scheme will appear in at least the first several new episodes of the teen television drama "One Tree Hill."

CW network spokesman Paul McGuire says it's unclear what will happen later in the show's seventh season following Antwon Tanner's guilty plea.

"One Tree Hill" co-stars Tanner as high school basketball star-turned-coach Skills. It's in

production in Wilmington, N.C. It returns Sept. 14.

The 34-year-old Tanner also appeared with Samuel L. Jackson in the 2005 movie "Coach Carter." He admitted in a Brooklyn federal court Friday he sold more than a dozen Social Security numbers for \$10,000. He's expected to get as much as a year in prison at his Nov. 20 sentencing.

His lawyer hasn't returned telephone and e-mail messages sent Tuesday seeking comment.

## Abdul to host 'VH1 Divas' Sept. 17 concert special

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Paula Abdul will see familiar faces when she hosts the "VH1 Divas" concert—former "American Idol" winners Kelly Clark-

son and Jordin Sparks are among the singers.

The special, which also includes Adele, Leona Lewis and Miley Cyrus, will air live

on Sept. 17.

Abdul has been filling in her dance card with work since Twittering her decision to quit as an "American Idol" judge. Besides the VH1 concert, she's filmed an appearance on Lifetime's "Drop Dead Diva."

Producer-judge Nigel Lythgoe of Fox's "So You Think You

Can Dance" expressed interest in an Abdul cameo on the show, and ABC programming chief Stephen McPherson said he's been in touch with her.

But Abdul has yet to announce a steady job to replace the hit singing contest, which she left amid contract negotiations.

### Court appearance for Artie Lange delayed

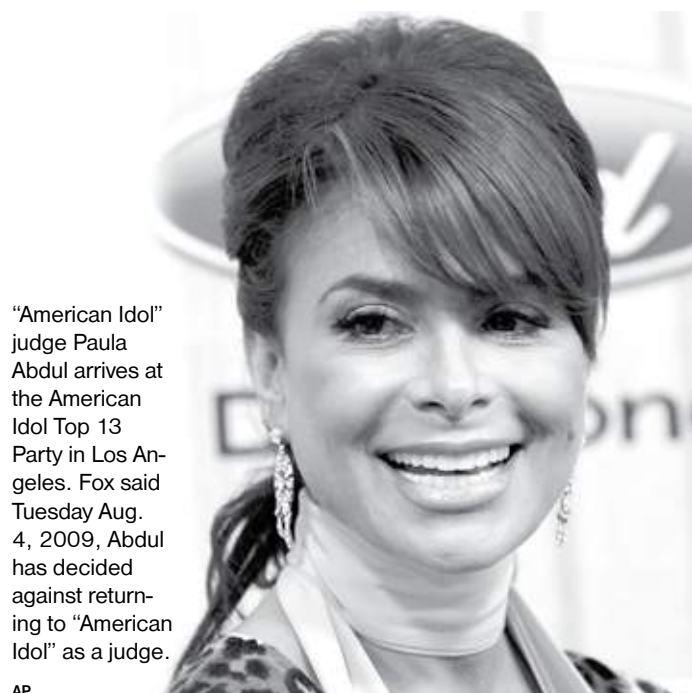
**TOMS RIVER, N.J. (AP)**—A New Jersey court appearance for "Howard Stern Show" radio personality Artie Lange on a charge of driving under the influence of an intoxicant has been rescheduled for next month.

The comedian and author of the best-selling book "Too Fat to Fish" originally was scheduled to appear in court Wednesday for a pretrial conference. That date is changed to Sept. 9.

Lange was charged following a minor traffic accident last month in Toms River, about 50 miles south-southwest of New York City.

Police say Lange's vehicle struck the back of another vehicle. They say no one was injured.

Defense lawyer Michael Grasso entered a not guilty plea for Lange on July 14. He says the 41-year-old Lange passed an alcohol screening test after the accident.



"American Idol" judge Paula Abdul arrives at the American Idol Top 13 Party in Los Angeles. Fox said Tuesday Aug. 4, 2009, Abdul has decided against returning to "American Idol" as a judge.

## A&E: Jacksons special will become a series

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The A&E network said Tuesday its previously announced documentary about members of the Jackson family will be expanded into a reality series.

A&E's official word came only after "Entertainment Tonight" declared the Jackson series was a go.

But beyond acknowledging its plans for a series, A&E furnished no details. No premiere date or number of episodes has been specified.

The original special, which the cable channel announced last May, focuses on brothers Jackie, Tito, Jermaine and Marlon Jackson as they prepare to reunite for a concert tour.

Initial filming wrapped in June before the death of Mi-

chael Jackson, but he didn't participate in the production, said network spokesman Dan Silberman.

The 50-year-old King of Pop died June 25, weeks before he was scheduled to begin a string of comeback shows in London.

"ET" aired footage from the



Jackson

special on its Tuesday edition.

Billed as "exclusive new video," the three-minute clip showed family matriarch Katherine Jackson as well as her sons Jermaine, Jackie and Tito, at home, relaxing and chatting.

Correspondent Kevin Fra-

zier told viewers the project included "the entire Jackson clan," adding, "sources tell us that Michael also participated in the filming."

"ET" did not say how it got the video, but promised to air more on Wednesday's edition.

"The footage was leaked without A&E's knowledge or consent," said network spokesman Dan Silberman

## 'Thriller' co-star becomes Jackson creditor

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Court records show Michael Jackson's love interest in the "Thriller" video, Ola Ray, is now a creditor to the King of Pop's estate.

Ray's attorney filed paperwork in Los Angeles last week stating

she is a creditor to the singer's estate and is owed an undetermined amount of money.

The actress sued Jackson in April, claiming he had failed to pay her royalties that she was due from the "Thriller" video

for the past four years.

That suit, and two others filed by "Thriller" director John Landis, remain unresolved. One of Landis' lawsuits claimed he also hadn't been paid royalties on the "Thriller" video for several years.

## Mom was right to insist son earn a spot in college dorm

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



**DEAR ABBY:** I disagree with your advice to "Perplexed Mom in New York" (June 20), who is requiring her son to live at home his first semester of college because of "less than stellar" behavior during his senior year of high school.

I am a college administrator in charge of dismissals. It is not that difficult to get a dorm room mid-year because there are dismissals, transfers and students who change their minds about their living arrangements.

If "Mom" warned her son that his high school conduct would have an impact on her decision to allow him to live on campus, she should stick to it. She should not let him bully her into giving him something he doesn't deserve. He needs to understand that his behavior cost him his dorm space. She made the right call.

I recommend spelling out in writing exactly what he will need to do to move on campus. He should be allowed to move only if he complies 100 percent.

College is a gift to be earned. There is no legal obligation for parents to pay for their child to attend. And when there is trouble, parents must act quickly and not attempt to block consequences their kids need to experience. It's all part of the learning process.

ANN IN NEWARK, DEL.

**DEAR ANN:** Thank you for lending your professional perspective. Responses to that letter poured in from educators, students and parents who "kindly" reminded me that times have changed since my college days. Read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** The cost of housing and food service at college can often equal or exceed the cost of tuition. Students who have the advantage of living close to campus can save a significant amount of money by living at home. To fully experience university life and meet new friends, they can become involved with the many campus organizations that are sponsored.

Higher education is very expensive, and students need to understand the costs. Any method to cut down on the expense, including living at home, should be discussed by parents and children. In today's work force, a college education is extremely valuable—and one can be obtained without breaking the bank.

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATOR IN COLORADO

**DEAR ABBY:** My advice to that mother and her son is to call the school and ask if there is any space left in the dorms—fast! The freshman year of college is a critical time in a person's life, one in which students are open to making new friends. Living on campus in a dorm makes it much easier and allows them to better integrate into campus life.

While there are many commuter students across the nation, they can suffer from loneliness and depression because of their detachment from the rest of the students on campus. I, too, went to a school within reasonable driving distance from home, and I know from experience how difficult it can be.

TRACY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

**DEAR ABBY:** How long has it been since you've lived in a college dorm? You advised that dorms provide supervision and structure. Abby, countless unstructured, unsupervised and unconducted activities go on there.

"Perplexed" should stick to her guns. If her son's senior year was "less than stellar," his freshman year at college could be a disaster. Moving into the dorms midway through the school year won't end the world. I saw kids do it all the time. Things have changed, Abby. Wake up and smell the brewskis!

SEEN IT ALL IN KENTUCKY

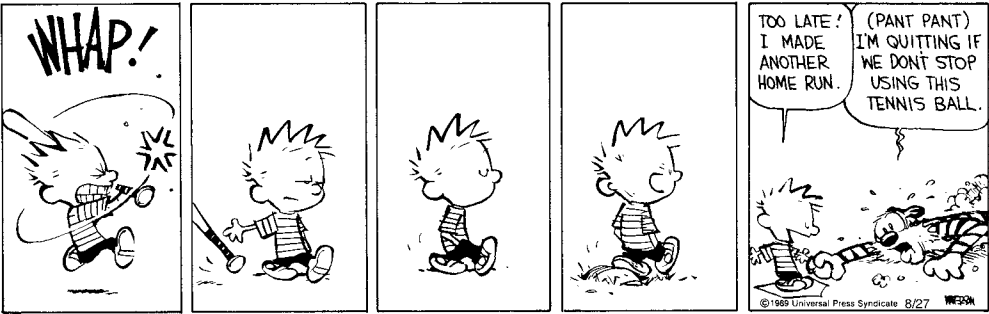
**DEAR ABBY:** That young man should pony up some of his own money if he wants to live on campus, because then he will be more likely to appreciate the investment. I had a job all through high school and college. Paying my own way made it that much more satisfying.

MICHELE IN WISCONSIN



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



Garfield®



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The Duplex



CROSSWORD

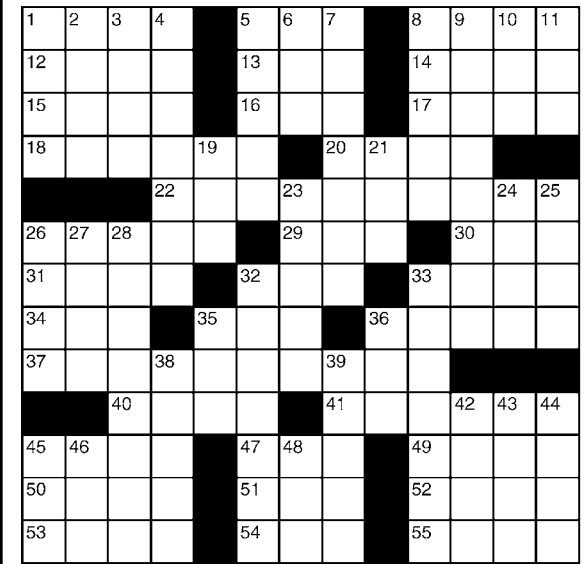
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tobacco type
  - 5 Possesses
  - 8 Benedict XVI, e.g.
  - 12 Places
  - 13 Group of scenes
  - 14 Acknowledgment
  - 15 Unoriginal one
  - 16 Geese-in-flight formation
  - 17 Rose or Townshend
  - 18 Shrew
  - 20 Go sight-seeing
  - 22 Accepts the truth
  - 26 Make one
  - 29 Speck
  - 30 Feedbag morsel
  - 31 Logical
  - 32 Wrestling victory
  - 33 Carvey or Delany
  - 34 Citric drink
  - 35 Pendulum site?
  - 36 Brave
- DOWN**
- 1 Balkan native
  - 2 Arizona tribe
  - 3 Big name in desktop PCs
  - 4 He can hold his head high
  - 5 Destruction
  - 6 Black-jack component
  - 7 Cowboy hat
  - 8 — New Guinea
  - 9 Cold-weather gear
  - 10 Cauldron
  - 11 Ram's mate
  - 19 Festive
  - 21 Frequently
  - 23 Archie's wife
  - 24 Catches some rays
  - 25 Remain
  - 26 Mil. branch
  - 27 Zilch
  - 28 Unskilled
  - 32 Eaters' outings
  - 33 Sword-play specialist
  - 35 Man-handle
  - 36 Wildebeest
  - 38 Mardi Gras "faces"
  - 39 "Peer Gynt" playwright
  - 42 Crazy
  - 43 H H H, in Greece
  - 44 Surveillance
  - 45 Pair
  - 46 Debtor's letters
  - 48 Pair

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 8-27



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Alexa Vega, 21; Sarah Chalke, 33; Alex Lifeson, 56; Willy DeVille, 56

**Happy Birthday:** Making plans and not following through will lead to emotional upset and unexpected changes in your personal life. This is a good year to take a look at who you are and consider what's required to update your appeal. Now is not the time to back down when you have so much to gain. Your numbers are 6, 19, 22, 26, 32, 41, 49

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Get a better handle on your finances; budget and change some of your deals to suit your current needs. Once you feel better about your spending habits, you will be able to move on to a new project with confidence. Love is in the stars. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** There may be a conflict between the changes you want to make at home and who else is willing to go along with your plans. Don't back down but do compromise. A happy home life is well worth giving up a few minor things. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Take the time to listen to someone who interests you and you can form a coalition that will benefit you both. A change in plans will help you manipulate your professional situation. Your efforts can lead to a higher paying or more interesting position. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You'll get all worked up over nothing. Not everyone will agree with you, but does it

really matter? Organization and good preparation will help you succeed and prove your point without rancor. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You can win at whatever you do if you go about it the right way. Concentrate on making everyone comfortable with your plans and you will get help, admiration and love from someone in your life who really matters to you. ★★★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Be careful with whom you share information. Someone may not be as honest or loyal as you hope. You can excel but only if you are willing to do the work yourself. Uncertainty will be your downfall. Proceed with confidence. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You can talk your way into any deal or activity or group that you wish to be a part of but, before you do, make sure that you really want to be involved. Chances are good that your motives may not be in the right place. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** A work problem may leave you feeling emotionally down. Don't let this stand in the way of moving forward with one of your own plans. You don't have to spend money to get something off the ground. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You can skillfully market your talent and grab interest but, if you cannot follow through, you will face the wrath of someone with more experience. Know what you are doing before you proceed. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST  
THE LAST WORD  
IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't let anyone take advantage of your talents, your financial position or your ability to bring people together. Be sure that the people around you are sound and can offer what they say before you get involved. ★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Your playfulness will capture interest and get you involved in something perfect for you to pursue. An idea that can earn you extra cash will intrigue you but, before you get involved, make sure it doesn't go against any rules. ★★★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Your inability to make up your mind will unnerve someone you are trying to befriend or get into a partnership with. Don't get involved with someone personally if you have a business or work relationship with this person. ★★

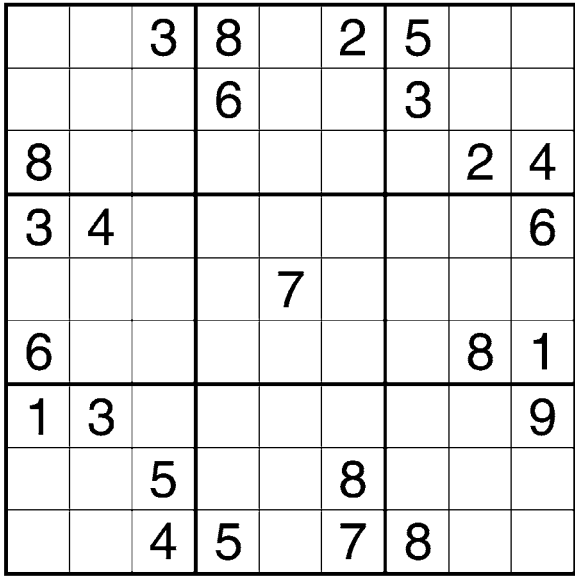
**Birthday Baby:** You are strong-minded, willful, sensitive, caring and passionate about whatever you do. You are sophisticated and classy.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

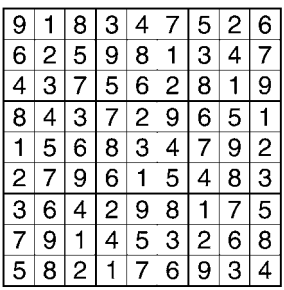


Difficulty Level ★★

8/27

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

8/26

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HOME-CURSED BUTTER

Solution: 8 letters



© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 8/27  
Barrel, Blade, Blend, Bread, Breakfast, Buttermilk, Cake, Cheese, Cloth, Cook, Cows, Creamy, Crock, Dairy, Evaporated, Farm, Firm, Float, Froth, Homemade, Kitchen, Ladle, Make, Melt, Mixing, Mold, Organic, Paddle, Plunger, Pound, Recipe, Roll, Salt, Scoop, Separate, Skimmer, Soak, Sour, Spin, Spread, Stir, Store, Sweet, Swift, Task, Thick, Turn, Unpasteurized, Whip, Whole, Wood  
Yesterday's Answer: Records  
SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just \$4 each (U.S. funds only, payable to Universal Press Syndicate, Inc.). It's a great gift for the word lover. Call for each additional book. Send to: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-842-5400. Order online at [upuzzles.com](http://upuzzles.com).



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## WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in this section

WHATZIT Solution: Turn up on time

**MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Special Meeting to be held on Friday, August 28, 2009 beginning at 9:00 AM at the MPLT Conference Room, Suite #107, Morgen Building, Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

- I PRELIMINARIES**
  - Call to Order
  - Roll Call
  - Adoption of Agenda
  - Adoption of Minutes
- II CONSULTANT'S REPORTS**
  - Investment Consultant Reports
    - o Asset Allocation Study Review & Selection
- III NEW BUSINESS**
  - MPLT Resolution 09-06: Asset Allocation
  - Special Election of Trust Officers
- IV OLD BUSINESS**
  - ETI Proposed Matters
  - Office Space Matters – Building Construction
  - Administrative Manual – Personnel Benefits
- V EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.*
- VI MISCELLANEOUS**
- VII ADJOURNMENT**

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

**Drunk Driving** Over the limit. Under arrest.

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• 3-Liner with picture	<b>\$45</b>
• 5-Liner with picture	<b>\$55</b>

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:  
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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235-NEWS



# Dolphins' deal with Williams sisters announced



**DAVIE, Fla. (AP)—**The Williams sisters stood at the edge of the Miami Dolphins' practice field, easy to spot in elegant, color-coordinated beige dresses and high heels that dug into the turf.

The team's workout had ended, and it was time for introductions. Joey Porter, meet Serena Williams. Jason Taylor, meet Venus Williams.

The NFL and the best of women's tennis converged Tuesday when the Williamses paid a visit to the Dolphins' complex as the latest celebrities to buy a small stake in the franchise. Their deal with owner Stephen Ross, first reported last week, was confirmed at a news conference overlooking the field.

Venus and Serena live in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.,

about an hour's drive from the Dolphins' stadium.

"To have this opportunity is really where our heart is," Venus said. "We're South Florida girls. When we get off the road, this is where we come home to. When we come home to Dolphins games, it's going to be exciting."

Venus said she and Serena have been to "a few games." Serena dated former NFL players LaVar Arrington and Keyshawn Johnson, but the sisters said the Dolphins have long been their favorite team.

"We're just 'Go Fins!'-type people," Serena said.

"It's great going to the games for us," Venus said. "When we play tennis, you're so focused you don't really get to feel that atmosphere. When we go to a Dolphins game, we get to soak in the atmosphere and we realize, 'Oh

my God, we do this too.'"

The sisters are the first female African-Americans to hold an ownership stake in an NFL franchise, the Dolphins said. The league has no African-American majority owner.

"We're really honored," Serena said. "Venus and I in tennis have tried to do so much for the sport. We're really excited to even have this opportunity."

Ross, a New York real estate billionaire, has brought six celebrities into the fold since completing his purchase of the Dolphins from Wayne Huizenga in January. The first partnership was with singer Jimmy Buffett; musicians Gloria and Emilio Estefan and Marc Anthony subsequently bought small shares of the team.

The Estefans are the first Cuban-Americans to hold an ownership stake in an NFL team,

while Anthony is a New York native of Puerto Rican descent.

"We are thrilled to have Venus and Serena join the Dolphins as limited partners," Ross said. "They are among the most admired athletes in the world and have become global ambassadors for the game of tennis. Their addition to our ownership group further reflects our commitment to connect with aggressively and embrace the great diversity that makes South Florida a multicultural gem."

Making their first visit to the Dolphins' complex, the sisters watched a little practice, checked out the weight room and chatted with several players. Their favorite is running back Ronnie Brown, a friend through mutual acquaintances.

Brown envisions the sisters broadening the NFL's reach.

"It's exciting," he said. "I hope they can draw a different crowd to the sport. Hopefully we get some of their fans to be Dolphins fans."

The sisters posed for photographers holding team jerseys - No. 11 for Venus, No. 89 for Serena. EleVen is Venus' clothing line; 8-9 is the birthdate of their half sister, Yetunde Price, who died in a 2003 shooting.

The Dolphins' negotiations with the sisters were initiated by former U.S. Tennis Association CEO Arlen Kantarian, an adviser to Ross. He introduced the Williamses to Ross shortly after Serena beat Venus in the Wimbledon final, and the sisters needed time to embrace the of-

fer to buy part of the team.

"One or two days after you win Wimbledon, you get hit with about 25 different opportunities," Kantarian said. "Athletes are used to taking money in, not giving money out. This was a little bit different. But they were very excited."

The sisters saw a marketing opportunity, Kantarian said, but also a chance to extend their reach in the community. They want to help with the growth of the Dolphins' charity foundation.

They also say they'll attend as many games as their schedules permit. Now that they're on board, do the sisters have any suggestions for Ross?

"Don't draft us," Venus said.

## Seahawks sign running back James to 1-year deal

**RENTON, Wash. (AP)—**Edgerrin James is Seattle's latest aging star running back, less than a year and half after Shaun Alexander was unceremoniously booted out of town.

The league's leading active rusher signed a one-year contract with the Seahawks on Tuesday night. He's being asked to help revive a rushing offense that has been generally dormant since February 2006, when Alexander was the NFL MVP and Seattle was in its only Super Bowl.

Earlier Tuesday night, Seattle waived fellow veteran running back T.J. Duckett to clear roster space.

"It's official! Congrats to Edgerrin James on signing a 1 year deal with the Seahawks," agent Drew Rosenhaus posted on Twitter late Tuesday.

A team spokesman confirmed the signing moments later. It is believed to be worth about \$2 million, though Rosenhaus did not immediately comment on financial terms.

The deal comes 16 months after Seattle released Alexander, when he was 30.

The 31-year-old James is 11th on the NFL rushing list with 12,121 yards but was benched for the first time in his career last season by Arizona. He is expected to practice for the first time with his third NFL team on Wednesday.

Duckett confirmed to The Associated Press in a text message Tuesday night that he had been released. Seattle was at its preseason roster limit and had to shed someone to add James.

The 28-year-old Duckett, who played in Atlanta for current Seahawks coach Jim Mora and offensive coordinator Greg Knapp from 2004-05, led Seattle with eight touchdowns rushing last season. But he did not start a game in his only season with the Seahawks, and he was relegated by former coach Mike Holmgren to almost exclusively being a short-yardage back.

Knapp is installing his highly successful zone-blocking

scheme in Seattle this season, with an offensive line that already is missing three starters to injuries. He had been planning to use a triumvirate to run behind it: Julius Jones, Duckett and elusive, still-developing second-year man Justin Forsett.

In 12 combined seasons, they have rushed for 5,125 fewer yards than James, the 10-year veteran and former star with the Indianapolis Colts. James is within 158 yards of Marcus Allen and Marshall Faulk on the career rushing list, and 191 yards behind Jim Brown for eighth.

"Yeah. I watched 'Edge' quite a bit. I know he's a good back," Jones said. "He's definitely a great back and somebody I've always watched."

James had 794 carries for 2,895 yards and 16 touchdowns in his three seasons in Arizona. He topped 1,000 yards in 2006 and again in 2007, but was benched for seven games early in '08 as the Cardinals went with rookie Tim Hightower.

James asked Arizona to release him then. The Cardinals refused, and he was reinserted into the lineup late in the season. His resurgence during the playoffs gave Arizona the running game it had lacked and sparked the team to James' only Super Bowl.

Before the Cardinals released him, James had one year and \$5 million remaining on the four-year, \$40 million deal he signed with Arizona before the 2006 season.

Until Tuesday night, the lone veteran tailback remaining on Seattle's roster had been Jones. He now stands to lose carries to James.

"No. I'm not worried about that," said Jones, the former lead back with the Dallas Cowboys. "All I'm working on is trying to get myself better."

Jones practiced for only the second time in 12 days Tuesday following a bruised thigh.

"We'll wait and see," Jones said of Seattle's new running back picture. "I guess in a day or two, it will work itself out."



Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, center, stands between Serena, left, and Venus Williams after it was announced the tennis stars had become minority owners of the NFL football team, during a news conference at the team's training complex in Davie, Fla., Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009.

## Vick all set for debut with Eagles on Thursday

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)—**Michael Vick has looked sharp zipping uncontested passes to open receivers and racing past defenders who aren't allowed to touch him in practice.

Now he'll see what it's like to face 11 guys going after him again.

Vick will make his Eagles debut in a preseason game in Philadelphia on Thursday night. The three-time Pro Bowl quarterback hasn't played in an NFL game since Dec. 31, 2006, with the Atlanta Falcons - against the Eagles on the same field.

"I can only go off what I've seen in practice and it looks like he's moving around pretty good," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "Realistically, it's been two years. We'll see how it works out. We'll give him a couple shots in there and see what he can do."

Vick was released from federal custody July 20 after serving 18 months of a 23-month sentence for his role in running a dogfighting operation. He signed a one-year, \$1.6 million contract with the Eagles, who hold a \$5.2 million option for a second season.

Vick is due to appear at a bankruptcy court hearing in Newport News, Va., on Thursday morning and will fly back to Philadelphia for the game against the Jaguars.

"He'll be here for the game," Reid said.

Reid isn't saying how much Vick will play. Donovan McNabb and the rest of the starters are slated to go three quarters, and Reid said Vick won't play in the fourth quarter. Backup Kevin Kolb, who missed the first two preseason games with a knee injury, will

play the final quarter.

That means Vick could spell McNabb and be on the field with the first-team offense. It's also likely he could be used in a variation of the wildcat formation. Reid said he's not concerned about showing off such packages in a preseason game.

"I'm just going to take it play by play and see how he adjusts to game speed," Reid said. "If I think that's a problem, I'll probably discontinue the reps. If I feel he's adjusting OK, I'll continue to give him an opportunity here and there."

Vick is eligible to play the final two preseason games, but not in the regular season. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said he would consider Vick for full reinstatement by no later than Week 6 (Oct. 18-19).

"He wants to get in. He's set this as a goal, as did we,"

Reid said. "You see him out there conditioning after practice. He's conditioning before practice. He's excited to get out there. I'm sure he'll have a couple butterflies with it being a couple years since he's been in, but he's excited to get back doing what he does."

Reid is pleased with the way Vick has handled himself off the field, too.

"I think he's doing a good job. He's working at it," Reid said. "I think he's heading in the right direction. I think it's good that he's able to be around the team. We have some guys that can be a good influence for him and kind of take him under their wing."

While most of the attention will be on Vick, star running back Brian Westbrook also is set to see his first action of the preseason.



# Federer, Safina No. 1 in U.S. Open seedings



**NEW YORK**  
(AP)—Defending champion Serena Williams

was seeded No. 2 for the U.S. Open on Tuesday, behind Dinara Safina, because the tournament stuck to its policy of strictly following the rankings.

Roger Federer was seeded No. 1 for the fifth time at the year's last Grand Slam tournament. He is ranked No. 1 and has won the U.S. Open five years in a row.

Safina is No. 1 in the WTA computer, which calculates rankings based on performances across tournaments over the preceding 52 weeks. The younger sister of former men's No. 1 Marat Safin is still seeking her first Grand Slam title. She is 0-3 in major finals, including a loss to Williams at the Australian Open in January.

Williams has won three of the past four Grand Slam singles championships and 11 overall, the most among active women. She will be seeking her fourth U.S. Open title.

Tournament director Jim Curley said the U.S. Tennis Association did discuss the possibility of moving Williams ahead of Safina.

"The U.S. Open has the prerogative of altering its seedings; it's something we have not availed ourselves of in quite some time," Curley said in a telephone interview. "We certainly spoke about it, but it never got to the point where we were seriously intending to not follow the rankings."

Since 1997, the USTA has matched its seedings to the ATP and WTA rankings.

"The players do earn their rank-



Roger Federer, from Switzerland, hits a forehand against Novak Djokovic, from Serbia, at the Cincinnati Open tennis tournament, Sunday, Aug. 23, 2009, in Mason, Ohio. Federer won the title 6-1, 7-5.

ings over a 12-month period, both at Grand Slams and non-Grand Slam events. At the end of the day, whether you're seeded No. 1 or seeded No. 2 at the U.S. Open, it really doesn't matter. You're either at the top of the draw or the bottom of the draw, and the rest of the draw is determined by a coin toss," Curley said. "From a competition perspective, there really isn't any difference being seeded 1 or 2."

The draw will be announced Thursday, and the tournament begins Monday.

After the top two women, two-time U.S. Open champion Venus Williams is No. 3, followed by Beijing Olympics gold medalist Elena Dementieva and 2008 U.S. Open runner-up Jelena Jankovic.

Maria Sharapova is No. 29 - barely earning one of the 32 seedings after rising from No. 49 in the rankings last

week. She won the 2006 U.S. Open for one of her three major titles but missed the tournament last year because of a right shoulder injury. The Russian had surgery in October and a long absence from the tour dropped her ranking.

Sharapova is among a dozen Grand Slam singles champions seeded at this year's U.S. Open. One major champion in the field but not seeded is 2005 U.S. Open winner Kim Clijsters, who recently came out of retirement and received a wild card from the USTA.

"This year was very interesting because not only did you have the Dinara-Serena situation but you also had ... Maria Sharapova, a former champion here, who might have been unseeded, and then you also had Kim Clijsters, who only has two tournaments on the computer and therefore doesn't even have a ranking," Curley said. "We looked at those two, as well, and still ultimately decided to continue to follow the rankings."

After Federer in the men's seedings are 2008 U.S. Open runner-up Andy Murray, six-time major champion Rafael Nadal, 2007 U.S. Open runner-up Novak Djokovic and 2003 U.S. Open champion Andy Roddick.

## Popovich: Spurs' Big Three will be healthy



**SAN ANTONIO** (AP)—Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili left being busy this summer to the rest of the San Antonio Spurs.

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said Tuesday that his two aging stars have taken it easier than usual this offseason to get healthy, while the Spurs front office was unusually active and swinging deals for major additions like Richard Jefferson and Antonio McDyess.

Duncan, hobbled by knee problems down the stretch and in the playoffs, has pushed back the normal start of his normal preseason regimen by a month. The 33-year-old will begin workouts next week that the All-Star typically gets going in early August.

Click here to find out more!

Ginobili, meanwhile, has limited his summer activity to a treadmill and some walks after appearing in just 44 games last season because of bad ankles.

"He is healthy," Popovich said. "He'll come back out of shape but healthy."

Popovich spoke to reporters Tuesday for the first time since the Spurs ended their busiest—and costliest—offseason in recent history. The typically frugal Spurs will be hit with the NBA's luxury tax after picking up Jefferson's remaining \$29.2 million owed over the next two years in a trade with cost-cutting Milwaukee.

San Antonio also used their midlevel exception, about \$5.85 million, to sign McDyess and give Duncan a hand in the frontcourt. The Spurs also signed veteran big man Theo Ratliff and drafted Pitt All-America forward DeJuan Blair.

Popovich said spending money was a necessity.

"The face of the league has changed significantly over the last two years," Popovich said. "We've hung in there as long as we can, and this year we're go-

ing to have to spend money like some other people."

San Antonio approached the summer looking to spend and not squander the remaining years of the Duncan era. Between Duncan's ailing legs and a weak supporting cast, the Spurs limped into their earliest summer since 2000 after a first-round playoff loss to Dallas.

Duncan sat out several back-to-backs down the stretch because of a nagging right quad injury that Popovich said has healed.

"He's got more flexibility in that leg than he ever has," Popovich said. "Significantly more. He's cranking his knees during the day and at night when he goes to bed. It's paid off."

Tony Parker also gave the Spurs a scare this month when he hurt his right ankle playing for the French national team, but Popovich said the injury was minor

## FIU unhappy Thomas' opener could be at UNC



**MIAMI** (AP)— It sounds like a made-for-TV matchup—Isiah Thomas making his coaching debut

for FIU in the opening game of the season at defending national champion North Carolina.

That's what was listed on the Tar Heels' schedule for Nov. 9, released Tuesday by the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Oh, but there's a catch: It's not the game FIU wanted—and it's a game the Golden Panthers aren't interested in playing.

FIU athletic director Pete Garcia lashed out against the matchup Tuesday, saying he felt the Golden Panthers were "bullied" by organizers of the Coaches vs. Cancer tournament and that he expected Thomas' debut to be at Ohio State instead.

Garcia said the school is examining how to get out of the North Carolina matchup but told The Associated Press that FIU remains committed to playing in the tournament.

"Would they do what they're doing to us to Duke, or to North Carolina? No," Garcia said. "But they'll do it to FIU and any other school out there like FIU."

The Princeton, N.J.-based Gazelle Group, which operates the tournament, said Garcia signed a contract in November 2008 stipulating the Golden Panthers would play Ohio State or North Carolina sometime between Nov. 9-13. Garcia acknowledged signing that deal.

He said "it's a matter of principle and a matter of the contract" why FIU won't agree to playing North Carolina instead.

"We're being bullied into that game," Garcia said. "I've told them today, we'll play Ohio State, we don't want to play North Carolina."

Tournament organizers say FIU might not have a choice.

Gazelle Group president Rick Giles



Thomas

said the contract language allows for his organization "to have the sole authority" over sites, dates, times, teams and opponents in the tournament. The event even made some concessions to FIU regarding scheduling of sub-regional games in Miami, so that they wouldn't conflict with a Golden Panthers football game at Florida.

"I'm befuddled by all of this," Giles said.

North Carolina is not involved in the drama, with a school spokesman saying the Tar Heels will play who the tournament tells them to play.

The tournament format calls for four preselected hosts—Ohio State, North Carolina, California and Syracuse—automatically advancing to the semifinals at Madison Square Garden, regardless of what happens in the event's early round.

FIU is slated to host subregional games on Nov. 20, 21 and 23 at its on-campus arena, with James Madison, Murray State and North Carolina Central coming in for round-robin play. The other subregional for teams not going to Madison Square Garden is at Albany, where the Great Danes of the America East will host Robert Morris, Detroit and Alcorn State.

Ohio State will play Alcorn State on Nov. 9, in the slot FIU wants. A preseason publication that has been on the Buckeyes' athletic Web site for several weeks did make reference to playing FIU on that date.

"We don't want to be pushed around," Garcia said.

FIU hired Thomas, the former New York Knicks coach and president, on April 15 and gave him a five-year contract. Garcia said many of the nation's biggest programs have called about scheduling FIU since Thomas got hired.

"Everyone wants to play us now," Garcia said

## Ex-NBA ref Donaghy jailed on probation violation

**TAMPA, Fla.** (AP)—Disgraced former NBA referee Tim Donaghy was back behind bars Tuesday, accused of violating his federal probation by not showing up for work, the U.S. Marshals Service said.

Donaghy, 42, was being held without bond a day after his arrest at a halfway house in Tampa where he was finishing his 15-month sentence for gambling charges.

"He was supposed to be at work and he was somewhere else," said

Deputy U.S. Marshal Ron Lindbak, who didn't know any more details. Jail records said Donaghy is in sales at the Sarasota-based beverage company ShotPak. Calls to company executives there were not immediately returned.

Donaghy's attorney, John Lauro, was out of town and did not immediately respond to phone messages.

A New York judge sentenced Donaghy last year after the referee said he took thousands of dollars from a

professional gambler in exchange for inside tips on NBA games—including games he worked. Donaghy said he was a gambling addict.

He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to engage in wire fraud and transmitting betting information through interstate commerce in the tips-for-payoffs scheme.

He was released from a federal prison in Pensacola to the halfway house in June. He was scheduled for release in October.



# Rockies cut Dodgers lead to two in NL West



**D E N -**

**VER (AP)**

— Troy Tulowitzki singled off James McDonald with one out and the bases loaded in the bottom of the 10th inning to give the Colorado Rockies a 5-4 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers in the opener of a three-game series in the National League on Tuesday.

Colorado (72-54), the NL wild-card leader, moved 18 games over .500 for the first time in its history.

McDonald (3-3) walked Ian Stewart leading off the 10th. After a bunt single and an error, Omar Quintanilla struck out and Todd Helton was intentionally walked to load the bases. Tulowitzki lined the first pitch into center, giving Colorado its second straight extra-inning win.

Brad Hawpe and Clint Barmes homered for the Rockies.

## Cardinals 1, Astros 0

At St. Louis, Adam Wainwright allowed three hits over eight innings to become the NL's first 15-game winner and Albert Pujols' rare hit off Wandy Rodriguez drove in St. Louis' lone run.

Brendan Ryan scored from first on Pujols' one-out double down the third-base line in the first inning. The Cardinals (73-54) have gone 14-3 since Aug. 7 and are a season-best 19 games above .500.

Wainwright (15-7) matched the Yankees' CC Sabathia for the major league victory lead, and regained the team lead over Chris Carpenter (14-3). He retired 17 straight after Michael Bourn doubled to lead off the game, striking out five and walking none. Ryan Franklin finished for his 33rd save.

Before Tuesday, Pujols was 3 for 25 with no RBIs against Rodriguez, and the .120 average was his worst against a left-hander with a minimum of 15 at-bats. Rodriguez' success against Pujols was, in turn, his best against any batter he had faced at least 20 times.

## Giants 5, Diamondbacks 4

At San Francisco, Travis Ishikawa hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the eighth inning for San Francisco after scoring the tying run in the

seventh on a wild pitch.

Juan Uribe homered for the Giants, who bounced back from a heartbreaking 14-inning loss at Colorado on Monday night. The Giants snapped a three-game losing streak and remained four games behind Colorado in the NL wild card.

Ishikawa had one extra-base hit in his previous 70 at-bats — going a stretch of 31 games without one — before his double in the seventh. He connected off Jon Rauch (2-2) for his ninth homer.

## Pirates 6, Phillies 4

At Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen hit a game-ending two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth off Philadelphia closer Brad Lidge.

The Pirates tied it against Lidge (0-6) on singles by Luis Cruz and pinch-hitter Brandon Moss, and right fielder Jayson Werth's error for misplaying Moss' hit. McCutchen followed with his eighth homer.

The Phillies lost for only the second time in nine games despite two homers by Jimmy Rollins on the first two pitches he saw from Pirates starter Ross Ohlendorf. Steve Pearce hit a two-run shot and Ryan Doumit added a solo drive for the Pirates against Joe Blanton.

Lidge allowed hits to all three batters he faced to blow his ninth save in 33 attempts, the most such failures in the majors.

## Marlins 2, Mets 1

At Miami, Sean West pitched six impressive innings to lift Florida over an injury-battered New York shaken by the loss of ace Johan Santana for the season.

West (5-5) gave up six hits and three walks to outpitch Santana's replacement Nelson Figueroa (1-3).

Ross Gload hit an RBI single in the fifth, and Leo Nunez recorded his 13th save in 17 chances for Florida.

The only bright spot on a day of bad news for the Mets was Jeff Francoeur, who had two doubles after tearing a ligament in his left thumb over the weekend.

Santana will undergo season-ending surgery for bone chips in his left elbow, and reliever J.J. Putz was also shut down for the season with a slight tear in his right forearm.



Colorado Rockies' Troy Tulowitzki celebrates after hitting the game-winning single against the Los Angeles Dodgers during the 10th inning of a baseball game in Denver, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009. The Rockies beat the Dodgers 5-4.

## Padres 2, Braves 1, 12 innings

At Atlanta, David Eckstein's 12th-inning double drove in Nick Hundley as San Diego recovered after blowing a ninth-inning lead to Atlanta.

Hundley led off the 12th with a double off Kris Medlen (3-4). After Tony Gwynn Jr. struck out, pinch-hitter Luis Rodriguez walked. Everth Cabrera, who was 0 for 6, struck out for the third time before Eckstein delivered the go-ahead double to drive in Hundley from second.

Adrian Gonzalez's third-inning homer, his 34th, gave San Diego a 1-0 lead that held until the ninth.

## Nationals 15, Cubs 6

At Chicago, Elijah Dukes hit a grand slam in a six-run fifth inning, and Josh Willingham had two homers and six RBIs and Washington rocked Carlos Zambrano in his return from the disabled list.

Dukes drove in a career-high five runs as the Nationals sent the Cubs to their 13th loss in 18 games.

Willingham was 4 for 4 with a solo homer in the fourth off

Zambrano and a three-run shot off Tom Gorzelanny in the eighth, powering Washington's highest scoring game of the season.

Zambrano (7-5), bothered by a bad back, hadn't pitched since going three innings Aug. 1.

## Reds 8, Brewers 6, 13 innings

At Milwaukee, Joey Votto and Laynce Nix hit solo home runs in the top of the 13th inning as Cincinnati blew a five-run lead to Milwaukee in the ninth inning.

Votto led off against Todd Coffey (4-3) with his 19th home run and Nix hit his second of the game and 12th of the year, with two outs.

Daniel Ray Herrera (2-4) pitched the final two innings for the win.

Milwaukee scored five runs with one out in the bottom of the ninth to tie the game at 6-6, giving Cincinnati closer Francisco Cordero his second blown save in 28 chances.

Left fielder Darnell McDonald, recalled by the Reds from Triple-A Louisville earlier Tuesday, threw out Ryan Braun at the plate to end the ninth inning.

## Red Sox 6, White Sox 3

At Boston, Jason Bay hit a solo homer to break an eighth-inning tie, and Jacoby Ellsbury had three hits to go with his franchise-record 55th stolen base as the Boston Red Sox downed Chicago 6-3 in the American League on Tuesday.

Manny Delcarmen (5-2) got one out to escape a first-and-third jam in the eighth to earn the win. Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth for his 30th save.

## Rangers 10, Yankees 9

At New York, rookie shortstop Elvis Andrus turned Melky Cabrera's line drive into a game-ending double play as Texas held off New York, which scored four runs in the bottom of the ninth.

Michael Young and Nelson Cruz homered for the Rangers, who scored seven two-out runs off Joba Chamberlain (8-4) to overcome an early four-run deficit.

Texas' Jason Grilli allowed a leadoff single and a walk in the ninth before he was relieved by closer Frank Francisco. Alex Rodriguez walked before Hideki Matsui and Jorge Posada drove in runs with singles. Robinson Cano's two-run single cut it to 10-9. After a botched sacrifice attempt, Cabrera lined into the double play.

## Tigers 5, Angels 3

At Anaheim, California, Curtis Granderson and Placido Polanco hit back-to-back triples in the seventh inning, with Polanco driving in the go-ahead run for Detroit.

Jarrod Washburn earned his first win for Detroit with six resilient innings, while Miguel Cabrera homered and drove in two runs in another three-hit game. The Tigers boosted their AL Central lead over Minnesota and Chicago to 4 1/2 games.

## Rays 7, Blue Jays 3

At Toronto, Carlos Pena hit two two-run homers, giving him 200 for his career, and James Shields pitched 6 2-3 innings as Tampa Bay downed Toronto.

Pena went 2 for 5 with four RBIs in his fourth multihomer

game of the season. He has more home runs (37) than singles (35). Pena has hit six homers in five games and 11 in 17. He's batting .455 (10 for 22) over his current seven-game hitting streak.

The Rays have won eight of 10.

Toronto (57-67) has lost 10 of 13 and is a season-low 10 games below .500.

Pena hit both homers off Brett Cecil (5-3).

## Royals 6, Indians 2

At Kansas City, Missouri, Zack Greinke struck out a team-record 15 batters in eight overpowering innings as Kansas City beat Cleveland to end a five-game losing streak.

Greinke (12-8) passed his career high with 12 strikeouts in the first six innings, then broke Mark Gubicza's 21-year-old team record of 14 by getting Andy Marte in the seventh.

Mike Jacobs drove in two runs and Miguel Olivo hit his career-high 17th homer off Justin Masterson (4-5), giving Greinke more run support than he had in the previous two games combined.

## Twins 7, Orioles 6

At Minneapolis, Delmon Young's fourth hit of the game scored Michael Cuddyer in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift Minnesota past Baltimore.

Cuddyer hit a liner off a diving Brian Roberts' glove at second base with two outs. Kam Mikelio (0-1) walked Jason Kubel before Young hit one the opposite way. Cuddyer easily beat right fielder Nick Markakis' throw home.

## Mariners 4, Athletics 2, 10 innings

At Seattle, defensive-replacement Ryan Langerhans homered off Craig Breslow with one out in the bottom of the 10th inning to help Seattle to a win over Oakland.

Franklin Gutierrez's singled with one out in the 10th off Breslow (5-7), who entered the game tied in losses among AL relievers. It was Gutierrez's fifth hit and seventh time on base in the two games he's been leading off while Ichiro Suzuki rests a tight calf muscle.

Langerhans, who entered for defense the inning before, hit his second game-ending home run as a late-game substitute in three weeks.

# Mets' Santana to have elbow surgery, out for year

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Johan Santana needs surgery for bone chips in his left elbow and the star pitcher is out for the season, the latest blow to a New York Mets team battered by injuries. The team said their 30-year-old ace is expected to be OK for spring training next year. He was examined Tuesday by Mets medical director Dr. David Altchek in New York.

"It's not the worst," Santana said on a conference call. "Believe me, I'm going to be ready."

The Mets also announced Tuesday that reliever J.J. Putz had a setback in his recovery from elbow surgery and will miss the rest of the season after an MRI revealed "some new fraying and a slight tear" in his right forearm. He will not need surgery and it is merely a preventative measure, the team said.

Santana said he had the same operation after the 2003 season, and came back with a career-high 20 wins and the first of his two Cy Young

Awards for Minnesota.

"I know myself," he said. "I've been through this before. I know exactly what it is."

Mets general manager Omar Minaya said Santana was evaluated around the All-Star break as his stats dipped, adding the injury worsened in recent weeks, especially after his last start. The GM said "nothing major was there" during the previous checkup.

"It's mostly soreness," Minaya said on a conference call. "We all want to see Johan

Santana pitching in September. But this is a smart move because we want to see him pitching for the long haul."

The Mets had feared a major setback to Santana, who has four seasons left on his \$137.5 million, six-year contract. Instead, he will have arthroscopic surgery.

Santana said that had the Mets been in the middle of a pennant race, rather than lagging well below .500, he would've tried to keep pitching.

"I didn't want to shut it

down," he said. That said, "you don't want to go out there and blow it and make it worse."

Santana went 13-9 with a 3.13 ERA in 25 starts in his second year with the Mets. Strong at the start of the season, his numbers had dropped noticeably since June - he was 7-2 with a 1.77 ERA and averaged nearly 12 strikeouts per nine innings before then, but was 6-7 with a 4.02 ERA and averaged 5 1/2 strikeouts after.

Manager Jerry Manuel said Santana complained of elbow

soreness after his last outing, and the team decided to shut him down. Santana said his recovery time between starts was mostly affected.

"He felt he could still pitch. He wanted to come on the plane and give it a shot," Manuel said before Tuesday night's game at Florida. "When it gets to the point where he says something, then the red flags went up."

Santana was put on the 15-day disabled list and became the 12th Mets player on the DL, joining David Wright, Carlos Beltran, Jose Reyes, Carlos Delgado, John Maine, Putz and others.



# All set for 4th Powerade Banzai Half Marathon

It's all systems go for the Banzai Memorial Half Marathon and 10K Fun Run after Transpacific International, Inc. renewed its support for the fourth edition of the event.

Dubbed as the 4th Powerade Banzai Memorial Off-Road Half Marathon & Fun Run, races will be held on Sept. 12.

Transpac Group will donate Powerade, Foremost Crystal Clear bottled water, Subway sandwiches, Scoops ice cream, Powerade tattoos, and event T-shirts for the race.

Brad Ruzsala, one of the organizers of the event that started in 2006, is expecting between 65 to 100 runners for the races that will start and finish at the fabled Banzai Cliff.

Registration is at 5:30am, while the half marathon will start at 6am and the fun run at 7am. Entry fee is \$15.

All proceeds will be used to bring inaugural XTERRA Saipan winner Jamie Whitmore



Representatives of Transpacific International, Inc., which is the major sponsor of the 4th Powerade Banzai Memorial Off-Road Half Marathon & Fun Run, pose for a group photo with the event organizers at the Transpac Business Center recently.

to Saipan for the 2010 edition of the Crown Jewel and the Taga-

man Triathlon either as a regular participant or guest.

This year's defending champions are Ketson "Jack" Kabiri-

World Series was in 1997, when Pete Tomokane and the CNMI Big League All-Stars made it to Fort Lauderdale," Ada said.

The Thelma Mizer-managed squad went on to finish third in the International Pool with its 2-2 record. The CNMI lost to Aruba, 3-5, and to Puerto Rico, 1-11.

"The game against Aruba was almost ours. We were leading 3-1, and needed only two outs to end the game," said Ada, adding that Aruba coaches scouted the CNMI bets during their debut game against Italy.

"They stayed late night to scout our boys. They (Aruba players/coaches) and I believed the rest of the teams in the pool, and spectators, too, respected our boys. They were surprised to see our team beat Italy and from that evening, they knew our boys have what it

takes to win in the World Series," Ada said.

Ada said the crowd and Aruba even showed their appreciation to the CNMI Junior All-Stars during the closing ceremony.

"It was a very emotional moment for our team, as when it was their turn to do the parade in the closing ceremony, people were chanting, CNMI, CNMI, CNMI..." Ada said.

"I was at the bleachers when the coach from Aruba spoke and made a special acknowledgement of our boys, for giving them a great fight. It was really a proud moment for the CNMI," Ada said.

Aruba went on to beat the favored Puerto Rico in the pool finals, 7-5, before losing to a team from Scottsdale, Arizona in the World Series, 1-9.

ond half to make it a 4-0 lead, while Kamrul canned the last goal of the game three minutes later.

Matansa gained its third win in nine games, while Remington absorbed its fourth loss in nine games and dropped to fifth place.

second half, drew help from teammates Nate Flores, Ernest Duenas, and Ian Benavente to nail a 19-point lead.

Ada top-scored for the Sixers with his 16 points, while Matt Duenas finished with 13 markers. Ernest Duenas contributed 12, while Benavente and Flores chipped in eight apiece.

Taguchi led all scorers with his 22 points, while James Webb was the only other Celtics player to score in double figures with 10. Walter Wesley drilled four points and four of the Celtics players who made it to the scoreboard had only one field goal each.

## MP United 1, Independents 0

MP United kept the No. 4 spot after a 1-0 win over Independents in the second game.

Dae Min Jeon, who had two goals in MP United's 7-2 win over KFAS on Aug. 16, provided the needed goal to give his

team a winning streak.

Jeon scored in the 45th minute of the second half, just in time to hand MP United's its fourth win in 10 games.

Independents dropped to a 3-1-5 record and now shares the sixth to seventh spot in the team standings with Matansa.

Rollers 1 will duel with Hi-5. Tomorrow, the Sparks will collide against Rollers 2.

Games in the Rotary caging will be played on weekdays with one game each every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, and two matches on Thursdays.

**Sixers 66** – Ada 16, M. Duenas 13, E. Duenas 12, Benavente 8, Flores 8, Agtarap 4, Rabauliman 2, Salas 2.

**Celtics 47** –T. Taguchi 22, Webb 18, Wesley 4, Sablan 3, John Villagomez 2, Camacho 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 23-18, 66-47

el and Mamiko Oshima-Berger.

Kabiriel, who is also known as "Road Runner Bunny" topped last year's Banzai race in one hour, 31 minutes, 50 seconds, breakings his 2007 record of 1:31:51. He was runner-up to record-holder Eli Torgeson (1:18:10) in the second edition of the annual event.

Ronald Villafria finished second last year with his time of 1:41: 55 and Yosh Gabaldon was third after posting 1:44:27.

Oshima-Berger ruled the first three editions of the Banzai half marathon and had a record last year after finishing the 19-mile race in 1:35:27. She crushed her own mark of 1:38: 09 in 2006. In 2007, Oshima-Berger timed in at 1:41:46.

Maimi Shimizu and Monica Yamaguchi completed the Top 3 after submitting 137:27 and

2:01.44, respectively.

Other finishers were Tamio Nishikido (1:49:38), Louie Tenorio (1:58:09), 2006 champion Yoshi Suzuki (2:00: 22), Keum Bae Ji (2:00:37), Florian Braig (2:02:54), Joshua Berger (2:06:13), Andrea Ozawa (2:11:31), Nate Hawley (2:12:08), Kanae Quinn (2:12:09), Renato Calage (2:24:22), Manny Sitchon (2:31:29), and Cesar Fortaleza (2:35:51).

In the fun run, the Top 3 finishers were Matt Mancao (26:10), Nate Mateo (28:34), and Fred Camacho (30:37).

Mieko Carey participated in the short course and won the women's fun run with her time of 29:48. Melody Matson was runner-up in 39:03 and Kathy Pagapular was third in 39:38. (PR)

## HEO

From Page 28

his match against Australia's Lorenzo Alforque.

The Oceania Closed was an important event for Heo, as it is B2 tournament, offering nearly as many points as a Grand Slam junior event in the ITF Junior circuit. A B2 event is a regional championship and awards 120 points to the champion, 80 to the runner-up, 60 to the semifinalist, 40 to quarterfinalists, 25 to losers in Round of 16, and 10 to Losers of Round of 32. No points are

awarded in the loser's bracket.

Thea earns wild card entry

Meanwhile, Thea Minor was among the eight Pacific Oceania players who earned wild card seats in the girls' draw of the 2009 Oceania Closed Junior Championships.

Minor, who finished third in the girls' 14-and-under division of the POJC, was pitted against world No. 430 Jennifer Nguyen of Australia, and unfortunately lost her opening match, 1-6, 1-6.

She was scheduled to duel Papua New Guinea's Marcia Tere-Apisah in the consolation round on Tuesday.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### MLB STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	78	47	.624	—
Boston	72	53	.576	6
Tampa Bay	69	56	.552	9
Toronto	57	67	.460	20 1/2
Baltimore	51	75	.405	27 1/2

#### Central Division

Detroit	67	58	.536	—
Chicago	63	63	.500	4 1/2
Minnesota	62	63	.500	4 1/2
Cleveland	55	70	.440	12
Kansas City	47	77	.382	19

#### West Division

Los Angeles	74	50	.597	—
Texas	70	54	.565	4
Seattle	65	61	.516	10
Oakland	55	70	.440	19 1/2

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

Philadelphia	72	51	.585	—
Atlanta	66	59	.528	7
Florida	66	59	.528	7
New York	57	69	.453	16 1/2
Washington	45	81	.357	28 1/2

#### Central Division

St. Louis	73	54	.575	—
Chicago	62	61	.504	9
Houston	61	64	.488	11
Milwaukee	61	64	.488	11
Pittsburgh	53	71	.427	18 1/2
Cincinnati	52	71	.423	19

#### West Division

Los Angeles	74	52	.587	—
Colorado	72	54	.571	2
San Francisco	68	58	.550	6
Arizona	55	71	.437	19

San Diego	53	74	.417	21 1/2
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#### Yesterday's Games

Colorado 5, LA Dodgers 4  
St. Louis 1, Houston 0  
San Francisco 5, Arizona 4  
Pittsburgh 6, Philadelphia 4  
Florida 2, NY Mets 1  
San Diego 2, Atlanta 1  
Washington 15, Chi Cubs 6  
Cincinnati 8, Milwaukee 6  
Boston 6, Chi White Sox 3  
Texas 10, NY Yankees 9  
Detroit 5, LA Angels 3  
Tampa Bay 7, Toronto 3  
Kansas City 6, Cleveland 2  
Minnesota 7, Baltimore 6  
Seattle 4, Oakland 2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### LOCAL SCORES

#### NMIFA Standings

	W	D	L	Pts.
Inter Godfather's	7	2	1	23
Korean Juniors	5	1	2	16
KFAS	4	0	6	14
MP United	4	1	5	13
Remington	3	2	4	11
Independents FC	3	1	5	10
Matansa FC	3	1	5	10

#### Rotary Standings

G-Stars	1	0
Sixers	1	0
Celtics	0	1
Saints	0	1
Rollers 1	0	0
Rollers 2	0	0
Rollers 3	0	0
Sonics	0	0
Hi-5	0	0
Runnin' Rebels	0	0
Ol'Aces	0	0
Sparks	0	0

## ADA

From Page 28

shut out the Coquitlam Little League of Coquitlam, British Columbia, while Jeremy Rabauliman and Brian Camacho led the team's offense for a come-from-behind win.

"Every time these kids huddle, you can see in their eyes that they are determined to go all out, leading or not, and win as many games as they can," Ada said.

The next on the CNMI's list of achievements was the back-to-back homers of Jeremy Rabauliman and Brian Camacho. Rabauliman had a three-run homer at the bottom of the first, while Camacho went solo.

"The last time the CNMI hit back-to-back homers in the

## KFAS

From Page 28

Halim Abdul turn to enter the scoreboard and give Matansa a 3-0 lead.

Min Tamang also scored in the 42nd minute of the sec-

## SIXERS

From Page 28

when Joe Ada and Matt Duenas led the Sixers' breakaway in the second half.

Ada and Duenas combined for the team's first 14 points in the second half, and the Sixers started pulling away, taking a 37-23 lead.

The Celtics never recovered from thereon, as it had only Tim Taguchi single-handedly carrying the cudgels for the team.

In contrast, Ada and Duenas, who continued scoring in the





## All set for 4th Powerade Banzai Half Marathon

It's all systems go for the Banzai Memorial Half Marathon and 10K Fun Run after Transpacific International, Inc. renewed its support for the fourth edition of the event.

27

# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Dolphins' deal with Williams sisters announced

The Williams sisters stood at the edge of the Miami Dolphins' practice field, easy to spot in elegant, color-coordinated beige dresses and high heels that dug into the turf.

24

28 THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2009

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Ada touts CNMI feats in World Series

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

CNMI District Administrator James Ada tipped his hat off to the CNMI Junior All-Stars for their several achievements in last week's World Series in Taylor, Michigan.

First, for becoming the first Junior All-Star team from the CNMI to win more than a game in the World Series.

The CNMI youth sluggers prevailed over Italy in their first game and then pulled off a come-from-behind win over Canada, 11-9.

"They gave the CNMI its most wins in the Junior League of the World Series and for that I congratulate them," Ada said.

The CNMI played in the World Series (Junior League) from 2001 and 2005, but in each occasion, no team won more than one game.

Another achievement for the Commonwealth's bet was its victory over Canada.

Ada said from 2001 to 2005, the CNMI failed to beat a team from Canada. The Commonwealth's three wins in the five-year span were all against teams from Europe. Ada added no team from Asia Pacific had defeated Canada since 2001 before the CNMI Junior All-Stars snapped that losing skid.

Against Canada, the CNMI was behind, 5-9, after five complete innings when pitcher LaMarc Iguel

See ADA on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, the CNMI Junior All-Stars' Jeremy Rabauliman, LaMarc Iguel, and Henry Rabauliman, seen here posing for a group photo, played outstanding games in the World Series in Taylor, Michigan last week.

## Heo pulls out of ITF tournament

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



CNMI coach Jeff Race once said the key to Ji Hoon Heo's success in the 2009 Oceania Closed Junior Championships was two-fold: to have a good performance and good draw.

It should have been three-fold with Race must have included free from injury.

A strain back forced Heo to pull out from the 2009 Oceania Closed Junior Championships that started on Sunday

ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Ji Hoon Heo, seen here returning a shot to Kirk Schuler in a local tournament early this year, pulled out of the consolation draw in the 2009 Oceania Closed Championships in Fiji due to a strain back.

and will conclude today.

"I pulled my left back muscle and have to rest this week if I want to play in Korea," Heo said in an e-mail to *Saipan Tribune*.

Heo has plans of competing in the YanGu International Junior Championships Week 1 and Week 2 at KangWon-Do, South Korea. The first event will run from Sept. 1 to 6 while the second one will be played from Sept. 8 to 13.

Heo, who came from a title conquest in the boys' 18-and-under division of the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships, was paired against world No. 412 Andrew McLeod of Australia in the first round of the main draw. He eventually lost to the Australian netter, 6-0, 6-1, and dropped to the consolation bracket.

"In the first game I couldn't even serve and at 3-0, I had to call the phys-

iotherapist. I couldn't hit the ball nor serve," Heo said.

Earlier, the CNMI netter also played in the doubles and he and teammate Marcos Commuzzo of New Zealand lost to tournament No. 2 seeds Jason Kubler and Joey Swaysland of Australia, 1-6, 0-6.

"It was a hard luck for me because I played so good in the POJC and I can't even play in the second week," said Heo.

Heo, who holds an ITF Junior ranking of No. 1028, was unbeaten in the singles competition in the POJC and defeated all his foes in straight sets. He topped Fiji's Chris Hargrove in the finals, 6-0, 6-3, to rule the boys' 18-and-under division.

With his first-round loss to McLeon, Heo was relegated to the loser's bracket of the ITF event and eventually forfeited

See HEO on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Sixers' Ernest Duenas pulls up for a jumper against a Celtics defender during their game in the Rotary caging on Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

## Sixers rout Celtics in Rotary caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Two more teams debuted in the 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League with the Sixers whipping the Celtics, 66-47, on Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

An explosive second half lifted the Ray Duenas-coached Sixers past the Celtics in the second day of action in the 18-and-under caging.

The Celtics were still in the game at halftime, behind by only five, 18-23,

See SIXERS on Page 27

## KFAS ends Inter Godfather's run

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



It took only a goal from Jang Sun Sik to end Inter Godfather's winning streak in the 2009 NMIFAS Men's Football League.

Jang found the back of the net in the 25th minute of the first half to lift Korean Football Association of Saipan to a 1-0 victory over the league-leading Inter Godfather's on Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

The loss was Inter Godfather's first in 10 games, but it still kept the No. 1 spot in the

team standings. Inter now has a 7-2-1 win-draw-loss record with two more games left in the double round robin regular season.

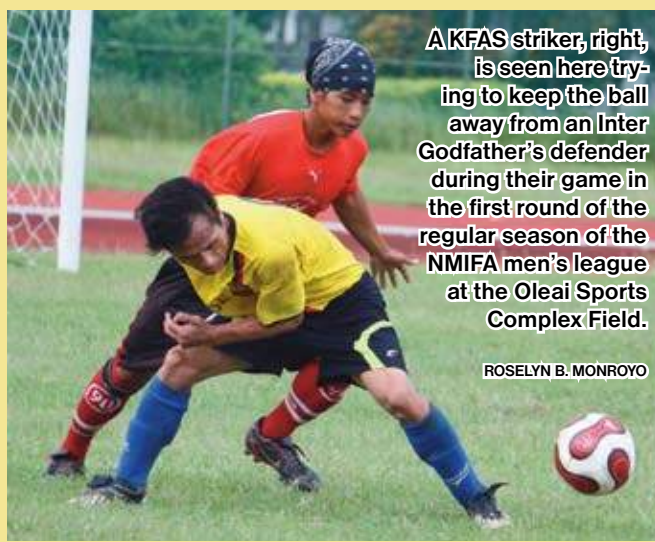
KFAS gained its fourth win and moved up from fifth to solo third place, as it now holds a 4-0-6 slate and has 14 points.

### Matansa 5, Remington 0

In the first game, Matansa Football Club started the theme of the day—upset—as it shut out former third placer Remington, 5-0.

Bir Tamang scored back-to-back goals, making his first one in the 19th minute and the second in the 25th. Three minutes later, it was

See KFAS on Page 27



A KFAS striker, right, is seen here trying to keep the ball away from an Inter Godfather's defender during their game in the first round of the regular season of the NMIFA men's league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

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